



**DORAL ACADEMY OF TEXAS  
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT  
2023-2024**

## **Athletic Code of Conduct Notification Letter**

Dear Parents:

This booklet contains the Athletic Code of Conduct for Doral Academy of Texas. It is designed to inform you and your athlete of the type of conduct expected in Doral Athletics. It is important that you and your athlete review this information together so that you will clearly understand the rules of acceptable conduct and the consequences of violations of established rules. With your support and encouragement, I am confident your student will meet behavioral expectations of the Doral Athletic Program. Those who fail to do so may expect to experience normal discipline consequences, suspension, or removal from the athletic program.

Please sign the back page of this booklet so that we may know that you have received and reviewed this Code of Conduct with your athlete. Please print off, sign and return the completed form to your athlete's coach. If you have any questions relating to this Athletic Code of Conduct, please email me.

Sincerely,

Tasheika Morris

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Athletic Coordinator

## **Code of Conduct: Athletics 2023-2024**

Athletics is an integral part of the total educational process. There are many lessons to be learned through participation in athletics – lessons that will help you long into your adult life and after your athletic career is over. The daily practices of self-discipline, hard work, respect for authority and teammates, responsibility to your team and cooperation to work, responsibility to achieve a common goal are just a few lessons which will smooth your transition into adulthood, as well as make us a great team! Participation in athletics is a privilege. Students who take advantage of this privilege by failing to practice responsibility for the team, or follow team policy, may lose their athletic privilege.

Acceptable conduct is important because an athlete is an integral part of a team concept and his/her behavior reflects the entire program. Furthermore, when an athlete competes against another school at their site, he/she represents our school and all that it stands for. Striving to earn respect for yourself, your school and your community should be a primary goal for all who participate in athletics.

The Interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing school board policy rules and regulations. While we take great pride in winning, we do not condone “winning at any cost” and we discourage any and all pressures which might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times, the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so as to justify it as an educational activity and opportunity.

**It is your responsibility to read through and understand the team rules that are enclosed in order to reduce the likelihood of a misunderstanding.** If you see a rule that you do not understand, it is your responsibility to see the coaches and get clarification. It is important that we cover these rules so that everyone knows what to expect in certain situations. We expect the very best from you at all times. Please note that no video tapes, pictures, or any other materials will be used to implement the policies in discussion. All Doral Academy student-athletes are expected to abide by the following guidelines.

**Note: The Athletic Department is not, and will not be held, responsible for any personal items lost, stolen, or damaged.**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS:**

All Athletes (Grades 4-6) who want to participate in any sport are required to participate in physical education class, unless waived by the coach and Athletic Director due to extenuating circumstances, from the start of school (August) until the end (May).

### **ALCOHOL:**

No student athlete, while on or off campus, shall sell, give, deliver, use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol.

The school will follow the code of conduct for any alcohol use.

In addition, the Athletic Department has a zero-tolerance policy for alcohol.

### **APPEARANCE:**

Hair should not block eyes during practices and games – please pull your hair back or up. No excessive piercings. Tattoos must always be covered during practices and games. All other forms of dress code will follow school policy.

### **ARRESTS:**

Citations or arrests on or off campus in regard to smoking, using/selling or possession of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, drinking alcoholic beverages, vandalism or any behavior which causes embarrassment to the team or Doral Academy may result in suspension or dismissal from the extracurricular program. Any member of extracurricular organization must notify the head coach, director or sponsoring staff member immediately upon any arrest or citation. Failure to notify the staff member responsible for the program may result in suspension or dismissal from the program.

### **ATTENDING SCHOOL AND PRACTICE:**

Student-Athletes are required to attend all their classes and practices, unless they are too physically sick to come to school. If you are going to miss practice, you are required to call the front office, so that your absence from practice will be excused. Be sure a note from the office is sent to your coach so that he/she is aware as well. If you are going to miss practice, you (parent/student) are to send your coach a message or email. **Coaches reserve the right to revoke playing privileges until make-up work is done, when necessary.** Both excused and unexcused absences must be made up. **If you make your own decision not to practice without the consent of the coach, playing time on the next contest may or will be decided at the discretion of the coach.** Excessive absences may jeopardize your position, role on the team, or even opportunity within the program.

### **BE ON TIME:**

Boys/Girls must be present for class when the first bell rings. Students who are marked absent excused or non – excused the student athlete may not under any circumstance participate in **practice or competitions** the day of the absence. A student who leaves campus without clearance from the office will be considered truant and consequences will be given.

Being on time for practice, pre-game meetings, physical education class, and all scheduled meetings are mandatory requirements of the program. If you cannot be on time, it is your responsibility to contact the coach to let him/her know exactly where you are and why you will be absent or late. **Sending a note or a message with someone else is not acceptable.**

### **BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT:**

Be a class act in everything you do. Look and act like you have pride in yourself and the fact that you are a Doral Academy Athlete. Take pride in yourself and the leadership role you have at Doral Academy as a student-Athlete. Everything you do speaks of you and our program. Everything you do is a representation of yourself, your family and the Doral Athletic Department. **Think before you act.** As a student-athlete, you should act in a manner that reflects class, self-discipline and manners. **There will be no foul language in our program at any time (practices, classroom, games, etc.) NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Student- **Athletes are expected to treat ALL teammates, players, coaches, staff, parents, and administration at all times with the upmost respect. A “Yes sir” and “No ma’am”, are expected from Athletes when talking to administration, staff and coaches.**

### **CLASSROOM CONDUCT:**

The purpose of being a student-athlete is a reward within itself. Athletes are expected to be role models both on and off the field. The classroom is a prime example of when this needs to occur. Our program expects our athletes, at the teacher’s discretion, to sit in the front of class to obtain as much learning as possible. The Athletic program also expects at the Athletic Coordinator’s and Teacher’s discretion, to sit in the front 3 rows of class to set an example as being role models. Any other placements in the classroom that could lead to becoming a distraction to others and themselves will not be tolerated. **You are the future law-abiding citizens of our nation. Once your athletic days are over, your education will be what you have to fall back on. Give yourself an opportunity to achieve greatness in life.**

**All athletes will observe all disciplinary rules established for the conduct of students based on the Doral Academy student handbook. Any athlete who gets a written discipline referral will serve their consequence from the school and athletics.**

*Discipline Referral:* Failure to abide by school policies and procedures by the instructor will require the use of the 3-strike policy set by the Athletic Department. For more information scroll down to Flagrant violation.

Fighting in school or at school-related activities will be punishable according to the Doral Academy guidelines. All incidents will be reviewed by a committee and dealt with independently in athletics.

## **CONFLICT RESOLUTION:**

If a situation arises in which there is a disagreement between coach and player/parent, the following **steps must be taken in order** to resolve the situation.

1. Student/Guardian should talk to the Head Coach of that sport about their concerns.
2. Student/Guardian should talk to the Athletic Coordinator about their concerns.
3. If necessary, the Student/Guardian may inform the Principal of the issue in writing or email.
4. If necessary, the Principal will call together all parties for a meeting to resolve any conflicts.

## **CONTINUOUS PARTICIPATION IN A SPORT:**

Athletes will need to be consistent in participation in sports. Athletes may, or may not, be allowed to continue participating in specific sports if there is a “try out, then quit, then come back and play again” mentality. The Head Coach of that sport and Athletic Coordinator will be the discretion of whether the athlete will be allowed to play continuously.

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

**To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must follow all the TSCAAL rules for each sport, and T.E.A. rules for academics.**

Athletes who fail the nine-week cycle will become ineligible and placed on academic probation for three weeks. At the three-week point, the athlete must be passing **all classes** in order to regain eligibility. If failure continues, the athlete remains ineligible until each three-week grading term is up for eligibility opportunities. Athletes who fail to emphasize their academic eligibility may eventually be removed from the team if continued. During the period of ineligibility, the athlete **must** continue to practice, but may not attend, travel, or participate in a contest with the team. Failure to attend practice may constitute dismissal from the team. The athlete, however, may participate in an organized scrimmage within the team practice.

Athletes will be expected to maintain eligibility throughout the school year. This includes when the athlete is “out of season”.

Student athletes may not leave school early for any games or tournaments if failing any academics courses.

**If the athlete fails to meet academic requirements, the following protocol will be in effect:**

- 1-Parent/Guardian Contact
- 2-Parent/Guardian Contact + Coaches Meeting
- 3-Parent/Guardian Contact + Coaches Meeting + Administration Meeting
- 4-Re-Evaluation of student-athlete and possible dismissal of the athletic program

### **FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS (3 STRIKE POLICY):**

**(Examples: Stealing, Vandalism, Ejection from Contest, Unsportsmanlike Conduct, Excessive Profanity, any type of Extreme Anarchism, Use of Tobacco Products/Drugs, Excessive Referrals, Excessive Absences/Tardiness, Unacceptable Verbal/Nonverbal Conflicts between Players/Coaches, ISS or Out of School Suspension and Fighting)**

Athletes will be required to uphold our expectations to full capacity. Any type of behavior or actions that may jeopardize our program will not be tolerated. **Athletes will be given a 3-strike policy in order to maintain status in the athletic program. It is your responsibility to assure that the expectations and goals of our program is your primary purpose.**

#### ***\*\*First Strike:***

- Notification by phone or letter to parents; Signed letter by Athletic Coordinator, parent and player.
- Suspension from one (1) contest
- Extra conditioning following the next practice
- All practices and team activities must be attended throughout suspension to be eligible to compete in the next contest
- NOTE: ALL SUSPENSION TIME MUST INCLUDE COMPETITIVE

#### **COMPETITION *\*\*Second Strike:***

- Coach and/or Athletic Coordinator will have a conference with parents; Signed letter by Athletic Coordinator, Principal, Parent and Player.
- Suspension from two (2) contests.
- Extra conditioning following the next practice
- All practices and team activities must be attended throughout suspension to be eligible to

compete in the next contest

NOTE: ALL SUSPENSION TIME MUST INCLUDE COMPETITIVE

### COMPETITION **\*\*Third Strike:**

-Athletic Coordinator will have a conference with Parents and Administration; Signed letter by Athletic Coordinator, Parent and Player.

-Meeting analysis for dismissal/removal of athlete from the athletic program

-Signed approval of dismissal from the Parents/Guardians, Athletic Coordinator and Administrator

### **ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES:**

No athletic participant shall, while on or off campus, sell, give, deliver, use, possess, or be under the influence of any controlled or otherwise illegal substance.

The school will follow the code of conduct for any possession of illegal substances.

In addition, the Athletic Department has a zero-tolerance policy for illegal substances.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION:**

The consequence for being placed in ISS will be determined by the student Code of Conduct as well as the Athletic Coordinator. **An athlete may not be released from ISS to participate in an athletic contest.** If an athlete is given ISS any day of the school week, they are suspended for the next contest following the placement.

### **NOTIFY A COACH IF YOU ARE INJURED OR ILL:**

If you get hurt in practice or in a game, notify the coach before you go home. Your safety and health are always the number one priority. If you are injured and capable, you are still required to attend the practice and watch so when you are physically able to return to play you will know what to do. **Being injured does not excuse an athlete from practices/games, it is encouraged to attend. If you are too sick or injured to attend practice, you may be considered too sick or injured to play; a doctor's note will be required.**

### **PHYSICALS:**

A physical examination is required to be done yearly for all students wanting to try out and participate in Athletics. If the athlete has asthma, an updated Asthma Action Plan is required for the Athletic Department to have on file. This is a state requirement.



## **PLAYING TIME:**

Playing time is based on attendance, effort, skill and sportsmanship demonstrated during practice: Behavior during school is also a deciding factor. Any discussion about playing time must happen 24-48 hours after the contest. Playing time may not be equal every game.

## **PRACTICING WHILE ACADEMICALLY INELIGIBLE:**

Any athlete becoming academically ineligible during a sport who **fails to continue to practice during that ineligibility** will not be allowed to participate in that sport the following year unless the head coach of that sport and Athletic Coordinator waives the rule.

## **QUITTING OF A SPORT:**

Any athlete quitting a sport in season will not be allowed to join another sport the rest of the school year unless extenuating circumstances permit.

## **SOCIAL NETWORKING, WEBSITES, AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION:**

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that Doral Academy extracurricular participants' personal electronic communication is appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication including, but not limited to, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube, Facebook, photo sharing, inappropriate texting that is published or appearing on the internet is public domain even if it is marked private. Extracurricular participants are responsible for texting and electronic communications on the internet through their personal websites as well as postings on other students' websites. The areas of appropriateness will include, but are not limited to, language (abbreviated or alluding to negative, lewd, vulgar or obscene comments about any individuals), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, and reference to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. Communication on the internet or by electronic means by extracurricular participants that are published and as a result cause disruption or damage to school district property at Doral Academy or another school district are also inappropriate.

Any member of the Doral Academy athletic program who is involved in inappropriate, disruptive, negative, lewd, obscene, or sexual pictures, comments, or statuses on any social networks such as, but not limited to, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube or Facebook may result in suspension or dismissal from the athletic program.

Behaviors that are identified by the Texas Education Code, Section 37.007, may also result in suspension or dismissal of a student from the athletic program. **Students must remain aware that being a part of an extracurricular activity is considered an honor and a privilege and not a right.** Therefore, it requires observance of all discipline policies whether or not a student is

at school or school-related activities.

The consequences for violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may include suspension or dismissal of the student from the athletic program. Such actions shall be taken by coaches, directors or sponsors only after consultation with the campus athletic coordinator (where appropriate) and/or school administration. A behavioral contract may also be used if an athlete is on probationary status due to various past, present, or future infractions. Consequences for some rule violations may be addressed by coaches through discipline within the student's program. Additional disciplinary consequences can also be imposed by the appropriate school officials for conduct or behavior that violates the Doral Code of Student Conduct.

Note: If the offense occurs during the summer, the suspension from activities will begin with the first week of competition/activity.

If the offense occurs during the sport season or period of extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin with the next competition or extracurricular activity as determined by the coach, director or sponsor.

### **SPORTS FEE:**

- The 2023-2024 athletic sports fee will be due **BEFORE** the first competition. The athletic sports fee will be paid online through the school store. The fee for students participating in the sport selected is \$100.

### **THEFT:**

Any extracurricular participant guilty of theft on campus will be subject to consequences plus he/she will also face the following consequences:

A first offense will result in a 3-6-week suspension of the student from game competition determined by the circumstances involved in the theft. If there are not 3-6 weeks left in that sport season or activity, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent sport season or period of extracurricular activity. A contract will be required. A meeting with the Athletic Coordinator, students' parents, and the student -athlete before they may return. Also discipline actions according to the student code of conduct.

A second offense will result in dismissal of the student from extracurricular participation for the remainder of the school year. Another contract will be required. A meeting with the Athletic Director, students' parents, and the student -athlete before participation in any other athletic program.

A third offense will result in the dismissal of the student from extracurricular activities.

## **TOBACCO:**

No student athlete participant shall, while on or off school premises, use, possess, distribute or be under the influence of tobacco. This includes an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device.

The school will follow the code of conduct for any tobacco or e-cigarette use.

In addition, the Athletic Department has a zero-tolerance policy for any type of Tobacco products.

## **TRANSITION OF ATHLETES AND COACHES FROM ONE SPORT TO ANOTHER:**

1. The sport in season shall have priority to athletes over an out-of-season training program.
2. Any student starting a season in a sport will not be permitted to work out with another sport until after the close of the season, unless given a release of permission by the head coach of the sport and Athletic Director.
3. *An athlete is not allowed to quit one sport to join another.* If an athlete is currently involved in a sports team, they must wait until that season is over, unless a waiver is signed and approved by the coaches of each sport and the Athletic Coordinator.
4. *Daily attendance will be taken at practices.*

## **UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT:**

All uniforms and equipment are the property of Doral Academy. All Athletes are required to turn in their uniforms at the end of each season. **The Athletes will be held responsible and will pay to replace any lost or unreturned uniforms/ equipment.**

**2023-2024**

## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT CONTRACT

**Name of Athlete (Printed: First, Middle, Last)** \_\_\_\_\_

All who sign below have read all the attached information, rules, regulations, and procedures. We each agree to abide by this document and the other TEA, TSCAAL and Doral documents to which parts of this document refer. Furthermore, as Athletes, we agree to strive for victory in a manner which will bring credit to ourselves, our team, our parents, and the community of Doral Academy. We realize that the younger members of the community look up to us and will copy our actions. Knowing this, we will conduct ourselves in ways that will set a positive example for those who will follow us. This contract begins on the first day of athletic participation and continues until the dismissal of school, or throughout the completion of an athletic competition that extends into the summer.

Athlete's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Work # \_\_\_\_\_