



Ardmore High School

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Ardmore, AL 35739

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Athletic Code of Conduct

The Limestone County Board of Education recognizes the value of athletics and other extracurricular activities as they relate to the total education of students. Extracurricular activities associated with athletics are defined as those recognized and sanctioned by the Alabama High School Athletic Association, and other extracurricular activities are defined as those that are sanctioned by a public school, which are not related to a student's academic requirements or success in a course(s).

All students of the Limestone County School District and Ardmore High School are charged with the responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to good citizenship everywhere. Student conduct shall be founded on the basic concept of respect and consideration for the rights of others. It is the policy of Ardmore High School that every student-athlete conducts themselves appropriately at each and every sporting contest. Therefore we have created the following athletic code of conduct for our athletes:

I. Philosophy

Our "Athletic Code of Conduct" is designed to guide both the student and parents to a successful experience in our athletic program. Parents and school personnel must join forces to promote a common value system that develops the character in young athletes our society so desperately seeks. Respect for authority, respect for the rights of others and developing high ideals of fairness in interpersonal relationships are desirable learning outcomes to be achieved through athletics. Winning, involving the spirit of competition, is an immediate objective in all athletic contests, but is not an end in itself. The desire to win can and should be used to stimulate the achievement of ultimate objectives.

Both students and parents should take the time to read and understand the commitment we are asking you to exhibit in order to participate in the athletic program at Ardmore High School. **Individual coaches may certainly have team rules that exceed this Code of Conduct, but all athletes will be held to at least the standard set forth in this document.** It is a privilege to participate in athletics and this privilege is extended to all, provided that students are willing to assume certain responsibilities.

II. Eligibility

The eligibility guidelines are set by the Alabama High School Athletic Association and The Limestone County Board of Education. We firmly believe in abiding by all rules and regulations and the eligibility guidelines will be followed in their entirety.

III. Leaving the Team

Once the coach announces the official team, those athletes remaining are expected to continue on the team for the rest of the season.

If a student decides not to continue participating in that sport it will be left to the discretion of the coach and administration as to whether the player will be allowed back on the team. If a student athlete decides not to continue, he/she will not be able to begin practicing with another sports team at Ardmore High School until the season of the team he/she left is completed.

All student athletes are expected to remain in the sport season and not to participate in school sponsored workouts or practices of another sport. Also all student athletes that are on Ardmore High School rosters are not permitted to practice with any outside teams of that same sport season.

IV. Financial Obligations

If a student has any financial obligations from a sport that student will not be allowed to participate in a contest of another sport until the financial obligations are met. This also applies to any uniforms or clothing that should be returned to the coach.

V. School Discipline

We expect our athletes to be positive role models for other students at Ardmore High School. Proper respect for the teachers and rules of Ardmore High School are expected at all times.

- a. Students who have school detention for will need to attend morning detention times.
- b. Students who are suspended from school aren't allowed to be on campus or attend any school function.
- c. Students in ISS will be able to practice or participate in games on the days they are in ISS.
- d. Numerous disciplinary referrals from the school are grounds for dismissal from the team. This will be a decision made by the coach and administration.

Disciplinary action taken by the school is taken seriously and further consequences will be left to the discretion of the coach to include but not limited to extra running, work detail, community service, etc.

VI. Sportsmanship

All athletes and team members will conduct themselves in a mature and sportsmanlike manner at all times, on and off the field, as representatives of the team, athletic program, and school. Taunting players on the opposing team or doing any act which degrades another player or reflects negatively on Ardmore High School will not be tolerated. Students who receive an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, a technical foul, red card, or get ejected from a game may receive sanctions above those stated in the AHSAA Handbook depending on the circumstances of the incident.

Coaches and players that are ejected from contests in all sports will receive the following penalties as outlined by the AHSAA:

- (a) First Ejection: Minimum \$100-\$300 fine.
- (b) Second Ejection: Minimum one-game suspension and \$500 fine

(c) Third Ejection: Minimum suspension for the remainder of the season and \$750 fine.

NOTE: If an ejection occurs during the final contest of the season, a monetary fine will be placed on the school according to its severity and what number of ejection it is.

Players that receive an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, a technical foul, or red cards in all sports will receive the penalties as outlined by each individual sport coach.

VII. Attendance

- a. Athletes are expected to be present at all team meetings, practices, scrimmages, and games unless they are ill or have been excused, in advance, by their coach. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action taken by the coach.
- b. In order to practice or play in a game on any school day, an athlete must be in school by 11:30 or have a valid excuse (i.e. Dr.'s appt., death in the family etc...)

VIII. Hazing

Hazing or initiation by athletes is prohibited by Ardmore High School. All athletes are to be treated with dignity and respect. Violation of this rule may result in suspension or possible removal from the team.

IX. Parental Concerns

In the event there is a concern following an athletic contest, parents are asked to wait until the next day to confront the coach. Nothing positive typically transpires between a coach and an upset parent immediately following an athletic contest. The parent is asked to call the school the next business day and schedule a meeting with the coach and/or athletic director and principal.

Parents are the most influential people in a child's life and Ardmore High School appreciates the efforts of our parents. We also feel that our coaches have a positive influence on the lives of young people. Making negative comments about a coach in front of your child places that student in an awkward position. Many times this causes problems for the athlete and the team. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you may have with the coach and then the administration if needed.



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Signature Page for the Athletic Code of Conduct

The full version of the Code of Conduct is available in the Athletic Offices and can be found at www.ardmorehigh.org.

We have read a copy of the Athletic Code of Conduct and understand it. We have discussed the program and the importance of following the rules with my son/daughter and we agree to abide by them. We understand that as a player I'm expected to conduct myself appropriately at each and every athletic contest. As a player, I also realize that any flagrant penalties, technical fouls, red cards, ejections, or any other action deemed inappropriate by the school administration can result in game and practice suspensions. Any repetitive actions can also result into removal from the team itself. As a player, I agree to this policy. As a parent, I grant permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Interscholastic Sports Program of Ardmore High School.

Name of Athlete

Grade

Signature of Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date