

**COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS CODE OF CONDUCT**

ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS: Participation in Interscholastic Athletics is a privilege not a right. As an athlete, you are a representative of the Cooperstown Central School District. You are expected to show respect to school officials, team members, and officials of other schools, referees, spectators and other interested observers of our program.

At the culmination of each athletic year, the Booster Club hosts an All-Sports Banquet & Awards Ceremony. Athletes are honored for exemplifying the following characteristics:

- Ability
- Competitiveness
- Leadership
- Sportsmanship
- Team play
- Honesty
- Self discipline
- Cooperation

These are the qualities that athletes who participate in the CCS Athletics Program should strive to achieve.

The following rules apply to all athletes participating in CCS Sports:

- A) **ATTENDANCE:** A student must be in attendance all day on the day of athletic activity in order to participate. **Any absence, including tardiness, with or without a note from the parent/guardian, will cause forfeiture of that day's practice or event.** Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- 1) Athletes are to provide coaches with prior notification of all anticipated excused absences (i.e., religious observances, college visits).
 - 2) If an athlete arrives at school after 8:25 A.M. without a legal excuse he/she will be prohibited from practicing or playing in a contest on that day.
 - 3) If an athlete does not participate in his or her regularly scheduled physical education class he/she cannot participate that day.
 - 4) Participation in athletics does not excuse a student from serving an assigned detention.
 - 5) If a student is ill during the day and must spend one academic class or more in the nurse's office, he/she will be ineligible to practice or play that day.
 - 6) The principal and athletic director reserves the right to make final determinations as to participation based upon individual mitigating circumstances.
- B) **SUSPENSIONS:**
- 1) Out of school suspensions will disqualify an athlete from practice and contests for the duration of the suspension. A second offense during the same sport season resulting in an external suspension will result in the athlete's removal from the team.
 - 2) In school suspensions at Cooperstown Middle/High School will disqualify an athlete from practice and contests for the duration of the suspension.
- C) **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** It is the responsibility of every Cooperstown athlete to maintain a sound academic standing. The Director of Athletics and/or Middle-High School Principal may adjust students' eligibility to compete in contests if need be.

D) TRANSPORTATION: Transportation to contests is provided by the school district.

- 1) Students are expected to ride the team bus to all athletic events. Exceptions can be made in extreme cases with a note from the athlete's parent/guardian, signed by a building administrator in advance.
- 2) If a parent/guardian is providing transportation home from an away contest he/she must sign out with the coach.

E) UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT:

- 1) Any athlete who fails to return a uniform or pay for the replacement of the uniform is ineligible to participate in the following sport's season until he/she does so.

F) AWARDS:

- 1) Awards are issued only to those athletes who complete the season in good standing. Athletes who are dropped from the team, or quit prior to the last contest, are not eligible for awards.
- 2) Athletes who fail to return their practice and/or contest equipment and uniforms are ineligible for awards.
- 3) Athletes will not receive a letter or any Section III awards if they do not complete the season. This includes all sectional and/or State Games.

G) BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) POLICY MANUAL:

- 1) A student's due process right will be followed according to the BOE Policy Manual.
- 2) Student athletes and their parents/guardians must realize that the CCS coaching staff and the Director of Athletics will follow BOE Policy Manual Section 7310 regarding the student discipline code and the penalties that may be imposed for a violation.

H) USE OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL & TOBACCO:

To participate on any athletic team a student must completely abstain from the use and/or possession of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs and the intentional misuse of any over-the-counter or prescription drugs.

FIRST OFFENSE

Any student who violates this policy will be ineligible to participate in 20% of the contests for the season (this ineligibility shall include all sectional, regional and state competition). During this time the athlete will be expected to attend practices and games but will not be allowed to dress for games. In addition to the stated penalty, an athlete may also be required to participate in a tobacco, drug or alcohol evaluation and/or treatment program.

SECOND OFFENSE

Any student who violates this policy a second time, within three (3) years of the first offense, will be ineligible to complete the season in which the second infraction occurs. In addition, the suspension will carry over into the following season. The athlete will be allowed to practice but will be restricted from playing in 30% of the contests following the second infraction. In addition to the stated penalty, an athlete may also be required to participate in a tobacco, drug or alcohol evaluation and/or treatment program.

THIRD OFFENSE

Any student that violates this policy a third time will be ineligible to participate on an athletic team for 90 school days. In addition to the stated penalty, an athlete may also be required to participate in a tobacco, drug or alcohol evaluation and/or treatment program.

I) RISKS OF PARTICIPATION:

Student athletes and their parents must realize that there is an inherent risk in participating in interscholastic athletic competition. Individual coaches will discuss the possible risks with student athletes and their parents/guardians. The risk of serious injury or loss of life is unavoidable in an interscholastic athletic program.

J) HAZING/HARASSMENT:

The Cooperstown Central School District is committed to providing educational, extra-curricular and athletic programs free from harassment, bullying, and/or hazing for all students and staff members. Subjecting someone to acts that are humiliating, indecent, painful or unsafe will not be tolerated. Athletes who engage in any of the above mentioned behaviors will be subject to disciplinary procedures as per school policy.

K) RULES COMMITTEE:

Code of Conduct violations will be investigated by a committee consisting of the Middle-High School Principal and Director of Athletics.

In order to participate in interscholastic athletics at CCS, both the student athlete and parent/guardian must sign the CCS Interscholastic Athletics Code of Conduct prior to the beginning of each sports season. Student participation in a sport may not commence without this signed document. The content may not be altered.

COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT. I UNDERSTAND THAT VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION RANGING FROM BEING BENCHED, TO BEING SUSPENDED FROM THE TEAM, DEPENDING UPON FREQUENCY OF THE VIOLATION.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT. I UNDERSTAND THAT VIOLATIONS BY MY CHILD WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION RANGING FROM BEING BENCHED TO BEING SUSPENDED FROM THE TEAM, DEPENDING ON THE FREQUENCY OF THE VIOLATION.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

**COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL
ATHLETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM (ACP)
REINSTATEMENT APPLICATION**

It is requested that I, be considered for reinstatement into the Cooperstown Central School Athletic Program, and agree to the following:

1. To strictly adhere to and affirm my commitment to the CCS Athletic Code of Conduct.
2. To complete any counseling obligations required.

Athletic Director (Signature/Date)

Principal (Signature/Date)

Student (Signature/Date)

Parent/Guardian (Signature/Date)

COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL
ATHLETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM FORM

Following the completion of the assigned counseling program by the student-athlete, the counselor must complete this form and return it to the Athletic Director. Successful completion of the program will reinstate the student-athlete to the team.

_____ (Student) _____ (Date)

_____ (Nature of Referral) _____ (Offense)

Program Used During the Counseling Sessions: _____

Other Obligations/Requirements to be completed: _____

Student: _____
Counselor: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
Date: _____