

## **CONTRACT OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OAK LAWN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL**

High School District 229 is committed to providing all students with a variety of opportunities to learn the skills necessary for them to reach their potential as citizens in a collaborative society. The extracurricular program expands the learning opportunities available to students and enhances the academic program.

While involvement in these activities is voluntary, it is also a privilege. A student choosing to participate takes on extended responsibilities as a special representative of the school and community. The objective is to hold students to a high level of conduct as a condition of participation, and to encourage students to make positive and healthy choices.

### **Requirements:**

Compliance with all rules and regulations of OLCHS, the South Suburban Conference (SSC) and the Illinois High School Association (IHSA). A participant must agree to abide by the following rules seven days a week, 365 days a year, whether or not school is in session, throughout the student's high school career. Rules for all participants in the extracurricular program:

1. Students are not to possess or use tobacco (including smokeless tobacco).
2. Students are not to possess<sup>1</sup> or use alcoholic beverages.
3. Students are not to possess<sup>2</sup> or use any illegal drug or controlled substance.
4. Students externally suspended will be subject to the consequences as prescribed.
5. Students are not to engage in any act that brings discredit<sup>3</sup> to the school.

In addition to the above rules, any participant who knowingly disregards or fails to act on a coach's/sponsor's directive may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the team or activity.

### **Consequences:**

**First Offense:** Suspension from one competition/performance up to a half season of participation in competitive athletics/activities. Students may attend practices, except during out of school suspensions. In all other activities, there will be no participation for one week.

**Second Offense:** Suspension from two competitions/performances up to a full season of participation in competitive athletics/activities. Students may attend practices, except during out of school suspensions. In all other activities, there will be no participation for two weeks.

**Third Offense:** Suspension from three competitions/performances up to one calendar year of Participation in competitive athletics/activities. Attendance at practices will depend on the infraction. In all other activities, there will be no participation for three weeks.

Penalties may be increased/extended with more serious violations. All students will be informed of the violation and given the opportunity to respond. If an infraction occurs, the student must complete the season during which the penalty is served. If a student fails to complete the season for any reason, the entire penalty will be assigned to the next season of participation.

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<sup>1</sup> Students are considered to be in possession when alcoholic beverages are present. This includes, but is not limited to, drinking parties and under aged gatherings where alcoholic beverages are present.

<sup>2</sup> Students are considered to be in possession when illegal drugs/controlled substances are present. This includes, but is not limited to, drinking parties and under aged gatherings where illegal substances are present.

<sup>3</sup> When it becomes public knowledge that a student of Oak Lawn Community High School is in violation of one or more of the above rules or has committed an illegal act within the school or community, the student is considered as bringing discredit to himself/herself and the school. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting off campus, an arrest for breaking the law, inappropriate behavior, etc.

Requests for review need to be in writing and signed by the student and parent/guardian. During a review, an evaluation of the student's attempt to modify or address the behavior that resulted in the offense will be taken into account. The review may alter the penalty.

**Intervention:**

If a student seeks out a coach or sponsor or if a coach or sponsor suspects or receives information regarding a student's smoking or substance abuse, the situation will be discussed with the student and referred to the Student Assistance Program, as appropriate. When a student seeks out a coach or sponsor, suspension from an activity may be waived, if the recommendation of the Student Assistance Program is followed.

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**Social Suspension Policy**

A social suspension is one in which a student is not allowed to attend school functions outside of the regular school day. These functions include, but are not limited to, being a member of an athletic or extracurricular team or club, and attending school dances, sporting events, and other school-sponsored events. Permission to attend these functions for a student who is on a social suspension may only be granted by a dean or administrator.

Actions that may result in a social suspension along with other consequences include:

- a) an accumulation of eleven referrals
- b) failure to serve two Saturday Detentions
- c) inappropriate behavior at an after-school event
- d) being in the building after-school hours without permission
- e) an act of gross misconduct
- f) excessive unexcused absences
- g) insubordination to a staff member particularly after-school hours

Students are placed on social suspension for at least 3 months but can appeal to their dean after 1 month of demonstrating improved behavior.