

# **Deweyville ISD**

## **Athletic Handbook**



**2024-2025**

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The primary purpose of this handbook is to set forth expectations of the Deweyville ISD Athletic Program. The policies set forth in this handbook are in addition to the rules and regulations of the Deweyville ISD Student Handbook, but do not supersede it. All athletes are expected to follow these policies in order to participate.

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# INTRODUCTION

The Deweyville ISD Athletic program is an integral part of the total school experience for all students. It offers a variety of sports and activities to all students who desire to participate.

The policies, procedures and regulations in this handbook are in compliance with school board policies and administrative procedures. They are designed to provide for a successful experience for students and the efficient operation of the athletic program.

This handbook is an extension of both the Student and the Extra-Curricular Codes of Conduct, and shall be used by all administrators, directors, coaches and players in grades 7-12.

You, the Student Athlete, are accountable and responsible for all policies contained within this handbook. Individual coaches within their sport may add additional rules as long as they adhere to school and athletic policy

## **Player Participation - Privilege of Athletics**

According to the University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules, athletic participation is a privilege, not a right. Athletes will be accountable and held to a higher standard than those students who elect not to participate in athletics

Because athletics is a privilege and not a right, Deweyville ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities. As such, this handbook extends beyond the Deweyville ISD Student Handbook not only in the types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This handbook will be enforced with all participating students in the Deweyville ISD athletic program:

- regardless of whether school is in session.
- regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event.
- regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time of the violation occurs.
- regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season or not.
- regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the Deweyville ISD Student Handbook will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his/her coach/director for the same violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the athletic handbook and be subject to discipline by a coach/director without having violated the Deweyville ISD Student Code of Conduct.

Along with adhering to the athletic handbook, any student participating in the athletic program must have the following documents on file in the Athletic Director's office:

- Signed Athletic Handbook
- Acknowledgement of UIL Rules
- UIL Concussion Acknowledgement
- UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form
- UIL Steroid Agreement
- Emergency Contact Information
- Physical and Medical History

# Player Eligibility

## Eligibility

Any student in grades 7-12 may participate in extracurricular activities on or off campus at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the cumulative number of credits in state approved courses. The standards from 7-12 grades are as follows:

- Beginning of your 7th grade year - the student must have been promoted from 6th to 7th grade.
- Beginning of your 8th grade year - the student must have been promoted from 7th to 8th grade.
- Beginning of your 9th grade year - the student must have been promoted from 8th to 9th grade.
- Beginning of your 10th grade year - the student must have earned at least 5 credits towards graduation.
- Beginning of your 11th grade year - the student must have earned at least 10 credits towards graduation, or have passed five credits during the past 12 months.
- Beginning of your 12th grade year - the student must have earned at least 15 credits towards graduation, or have passed five credits during the past 12 months.

**Continued Eligibility**-All students in grades 7-12 will maintain eligibility throughout the school year by adhering to the NO Pass - No Play legislation set forth by the UIL.

# Expectations/Procedures/Policies

## Our Mission

To become men and women of positive influence, directed by **purpose**, dedicated to **preparation**, driven to **perform**, and destined to **persevere**.

## The 4 Pillars

- **Purpose** – the foundation of our program. Who we are is more important than what we do.
- **Preparation** – the most important investment one can make to ensure one's success.
- **Performance** – the standard by which one is evaluated, judged, and rewarded
- **Perseverance** – determination at working hard regardless of any odds or obstacles that may exist

## Our Method Defined: Program Values

- **Purpose** - the bridge between dream and reality
- **Repetition** – the same thought or movement repeated frequently enough to become a mental and physical reflex
- **Attitude** - the mental state at the beginning of any undertaking which, more than anything else, will determine its successful outcome
- **Concentration** - total focus on the business at hand; commanding your mind and body to do exactly what you will it to do
- **Tempo** – the 'sense of urgency' needed to perform any competitive task efficiently and effectively
- **Intensity** – the way commitment to something is shown
- **Commitment** – unlock the doors of imagination, allows vision and provides the tools to turn dreams into reality
- **Expectation** – the ceiling of all success and achievement

## **Our Daily Method**

- Attendance
- Effort
- Attitude

## **Our Measurement: Expectations**

### **Off the Field/Court *You are a role model***

- Get proper rest and maintain a healthy diet.
- Stay away from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products.
- Maintain positive peer relationships.
- Follow all DISD Rules and Regulations for student-athletes.

### **Academically *Your mind will outlast your body...develop it***

- Be in class on time every day prepared to succeed.
- Sit in the front or the middle of the class.
- Complete assignments and take examinations on time.
- Communicate with instructors on weekly performance.
- Be a positive influence in class. (With Athletes and Non-Athletes)

### **Locker Room *We must treat each other with respect***

- Be positive and encouraging in the locker room.
- Maintain a clean locker and locker room area.
- Use and maintain ONLY your equipment.
- Bring personal and team concerns to the coaching staff.
- Check all equipment daily at the end of practice – do not wait until the next practice.
- Absolutely no foul or abusive language.

### **Workout/Practice: *The most important thing we do***

- Report to practice on time.
- Give 100% effort at every practice.
- Encourage and support your teammates.
- Treat your coaches with respect.
- Be coachable and eager to learn – seek and accept advice from your coaches.
- Set an example for younger players.

**Training Room: *Taking care of your body***

- Report all injuries as soon as they occur.
- Treat the trainers and their assistants with respect.
- Get in and out of the training room as quickly as possible.
- Be responsible with the scheduling of taping and pre-practice treatment.
- Be prompt for all treatments and follow the therapy schedule as prescribed.

**Communication: *The glue that holds it all together***

- Communicate with your parents about ALL that goes on in the classroom and in The Program.
- Maintain consistent communication with your teachers about expectations, projects, and grades.
- Always notify coaches, personally, if you cannot be at a workout/practice/competition.
- Resolve all individual/team conflicts before THAT day ends.

**Game Day Preparation: *Getting your mind right***

- Make sure you arrive on time, with complete uniform and all equipment.
- Follow the game-day itinerary TO THE LETTER.
- When traveling, be focused and quiet during transport.
- Never say or do anything to discredit or embarrass your team, The Program or Deweyville ISD

**During the Game: *Your performance is what people remember***

- Give 100% percent on every play regardless of the score.
- Do not taunt or mock your opponent – let your performance speak for you.
- Address all game officials and referees in a respectful manner.
- Hustle on and off the field.
- Place team goals above personal goals.
- Stay alert and be ready to perform when you are called upon.
- Notify the trainer and your position coach if you are injured.
- Proudly represent your family, your team, yourself, and your school with the highest level of respect.

**Post-Game: *Always represent the program well***

- Have all media interaction approved by the Head Coach.
- You are first and foremost, a member of the team – give credit to your teammates.
- Never criticize your coaches or teammates.



- Never make excuses.
- Never criticize your opponent or an official

## **Deweyville Athletic Procedures**

The following administrative procedures have been adopted by Deweyville ISD to deal with violations of the Athletic Handbook

**\*\*All violations will adhere to the following policies:**

- Confirmation that a violation has occurred via one of the following:
  - Report from a law enforcement agency
  - Personal disclosure by the participating student or parent/guardian
  - Observed behavior by a school employee
  - An investigation may be initiated if credible and specific information is received by a DISD representative.
- Notification by administrative designee to parents or legal guardian within 72 hours
- Notification by activity sponsor to campus principal or assigned administrative designee within 72 hours
- Meeting with parent, student, (discipline panel) sponsor/coach and administrative designee.
- Determination of type of discipline to be administered. Copies of meeting summary sent to the activity sponsor, campus principal and district level director
- **Appeals:** Board Policy FNG(LOCAL) (STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT AND PARENT COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES) will be provided upon request.

### **Cumulative Offenses**

Disciplinary offenses committed in grades 7 and 8 are cumulative for a student's middle school career, but will not carry on to high school. Any subsequent offenses that occur in high school will be cumulative during the student's high school career.

**\*\*It is an exception to this rule if the district receives credible evidence indicating that a middle school student committed an act involving the elements of a Class A misdemeanor or a felony. In this case, the offenses will carry from grade 7 through the completion of grade 12.**

# **Deweyville Athletic Procedures**

## **Discipline Management Program – Disciplinary Action (Prohibited Conduct) Day to Day Operations**

The following disciplinary actions have been put in place to serve as a reminder of our expectations and a deterrent for prohibited conduct. The sponsors will review the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular violation and impose appropriate disciplinary action. We will strive for consistency in administering consequences for the Athletic Department Policies and Procedures violations, but will exercise sound professional discretion. Violations of any of the expectations by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

### **Level 1 Disciplinary Action** – Excused Absences

- The student will be expected to make up for lost practice time.

### **Level 2 Disciplinary Action** – Unexcused Absences or Minor Discipline Issues

- The student will be subject to disciplinary action at the coach's discretion.

### **Level 3 Disciplinary Action** – Repeated Level 2 Violations / Conduct Unbecoming of a Deweyville Athlete (Failure to meet the standards set forth by the Athletic Handbook)

The student will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Head Coach/Athletic Director.

# **Deweyville Athletic Procedures**

## **Discipline Management Program – Disciplinary Action (Expellable Conduct) Day to Day Operations**

### **Tobacco/Electronic Cigarette Use**

- No tobacco or electronic cigarette use of any form will be permitted.

#### **First Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by the head coach/AD
- Disciplinary action as determined by the head coach/AD

#### **Second Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by the head coach/AD
- Suspension of athletic playing time
- Disciplinary actions as determined by head coach/AD

#### **Third Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by the head coach/AD

- Suspension possible for the remainder of the competitive season
- Disciplinary action as determined by the head coach/AD

### **Drug/Alcohol Policy**

In accordance with the extracurricular code of conduct, alcohol and drug use will be dealt with under the guidelines of a Level 1 Offense.

This policy includes but is not limited to the following areas:

- No drinking or Possession of alcoholic beverages at any time
- No use or possession of illegal drugs at any time
- No student involved in extracurricular activities shall be in attendance at any place where alcohol and illegal drugs are present. If said student confirms the existence of alcohol or illegal drugs they must leave immediately.

#### **First Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by the head coach/AD
- Completion of administrative counseling
- Disciplinary actions as determined by head coach/AD

#### **Second Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by the head coach/AD
- Suspension for 10% of the competitive season
- Disciplinary actions as determined by the head coach/AD

#### **Third Offense:**

- Parent/Guardian notification by head coach/AD
- Suspension for remainder of season/Possible suspension for the remainder of the year.

### **Stealing/Theft**

Taking things that do not belong to you, especially from your teammates, will not be tolerated. An athlete caught stealing may be suspended and/or punished at the discretion of the coach/director and the athletic director. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, an athlete may also be prosecuted by the law. This also involves school equipment not returned after the season is complete.

- To help us limit stealing/theft we ask that you do not bring valuables or large amounts of money to the dressing room. We also urge all students to keep any valuables **locked in their lockers at all times.**

### **Use of Profanity or Derogatory Language**

The use of profanity or derogatory language will not be allowed. An athlete caught using profanity or derogatory language will be punished at the discretion of the coach/director.

### **Bullying/Hazing**

We will treat others as we wish to be treated. An athlete caught Bullying or Hazing another student may be suspended and/or punished at the discretion of the coach/director and the athletic director. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, an athlete may be subject to the following:

- Criminal prosecution
- Suspension for the remainder of the year
- Permanent suspension from the DISD Athletic Program

## **Policies Frequently Discussed**

### **Policies**

The following Policies are some of the most frequently discussed:

- **Social Media - Conduct Unbecoming a Deweyville Athlete**

As stated earlier, we represent our community and our program at all times. This includes during the use of social media including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tik Tok, etc... Any conduct on social media that is deemed unbecoming of a Deweyville athlete as described in our expectations and the DISD Student Handbook may be dealt with by suspension and/or punished at the discretion of the coach/director and the athletic director. We will adhere to the district policies stated in the following excerpt:

Students are prohibited from possessing, sending, forwarding, posting, accessing, or displaying electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal. This prohibition also applies to conduct off school property, whether on district-owned or personally owned equipment, if it results in a substantial disruption to the educational environment.

Any person taking, disseminating, transferring, possessing, or sharing obscene, sexually oriented, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or other content—commonly referred to as “sexting”—will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, may be required to complete an educational program related to the dangers of this type of behavior, and, in certain circumstances, may be reported to law enforcement.

This type of behavior may constitute bullying or harassment, as well as impede future endeavors of a student. We encourage parents to review with their child the ["Before You Text"](#)

Sexting Prevention Course (<https://txssc.txstate.edu/tools/courses/before-you-text/>), a state-developed program that addresses the consequences of sexting.

- **Quitting a Sport**

We will adhere to a 5-day grace period for those thinking they want to quit a sport season. Student athletes have 5 days to decide if the program is right for them. After those 5 days, a student is NOT allowed to QUIT a sport. If a student quits a sport, he/she will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled sport of the year until the sport he/she quit is over. This does not include a second sport the athlete may be concurrently participating in, only the NEXT scheduled sport of the year.

- **In School Suspension**

Any athlete who is being punished by ISS will be allowed to practice for the duration of the placement. Athletes will NOT be allowed to participate or travel in games or contests while in ISS. At the completion of the last day of ISS, the student athlete will then become eligible for games. Student athletes will also be required to complete additional disciplinary actions if needed at the discretion of the director/coach

- **Awards and Lettering**

The School Letter is among the highest awards the school bestows; the highest of course being the diploma. Athletes may receive from the school only one major award (a Jacket) during their high school career. In order to letter, you must be on a varsity team to satisfy the requirements stated below. Sub-varsity athletes will receive certificates provided they are recommended for the award by their coach as a result of having shown good citizenship and character, attitude and attendance, in addition to having adhered to the policies contained in this handbook.

- **Dress and Grooming**

In **addition to** the policies set forth in the Deweyville ISD Student Handbook, the following will be expected of all Deweyville ISD athletes:

- Girls and Boys hair will be well groomed and of a natural color. No bright or contrasting colors are allowed in any part of the hair.
- Girls' hair must be up and out of their faces during the period and athletic events.
- Boys hair will be out of the eyes and no longer than the top of the shoulders.

- No jewelry may be worn during the athletic period, on any athletic trip, or during a contest.
- All athletes must have athletic shoes for the athletic period. No sandals, flip-flops, clogs, Hey Dudes, etc. will be allowed.

#### **Guidelines to be followed:**

- UIL rules will be followed in regard to “cost of award”.
- No participant will receive more than one letter jacket.
- Athletes will receive their jacket in the sport that they lettered first.
- The school will furnish only the letter patch. All other patches will be the responsibility of the student.
- Letter jackets will be the same for all sports.

#### **Qualifications for the letter**

Each coach will keep records of student participation in each sport. Such records will be used as a basis for determining whether a student qualifies for a letter. The athlete must complete the sport in order to letter or receive any post district awards. Below are the criteria for lettering:

- Must complete 1 year in DISD Athletic Program.
- Must be a member of a Varsity Level Team
- Must complete the Varsity Season in good standing with Athletic Director/Coordinator and/or Head Coach of the sport participated in.
- Must be nominated/submitted by the Head Coach of the sport participated in.

#### **Exceptions to Lettering Qualifications**

A participant may letter at the coaches’ discretion if the participant is considered to have been of exceptional value to the team. Exceptions may include playing on a team for four years and never lettering, a letterman who is injured and is unable to complete the season, or a specialist of some type.

Note: Any student who has qualified for an award but has quit or been dismissed from the squad for disciplinary reasons will not receive the award.

#### **Program Travel**

- Students at the varsity level will travel to and from all out of town contest with the team. Exceptions may be made if a request by the parent/legal guardian. Before leaving the contest, the parent/legal guardian, or adult designated by the parent must sign the student out with the coach/director. DISD shall not be liable for

injuries that occur to students riding in vehicles that are not provided by the school.

- Students will dress neatly and properly on all trips. Coaches will advise you regarding the proper attire.
- Conduct yourself properly on the bus or in a school vehicle. You will follow the printed rules that govern DISD bus riders.
- Receive permission from the coach before bringing any radios, electronic games, etc. aboard the bus.
- Be on time for all departures and inform parents of the time of pick up after a contest. Every effort will be made by the coaching staff to notify proper personnel and parents of all scheduled departures and arrival times, including unexpected changes in those times.

## **Program Health**

### **Required Forms:**

All athletes must turn in the forms required by the UIL and Deweyville ISD. The forms are listed below.

Physical

Medical History

Acknowledgment of Rules

Steroid Form

Concussion Form

Cardiac Form

### **Athletic Treatment Rules:**

- No horseplay, loitering, inappropriate behavior, or disrespectful language will be tolerated.
- Report all injuries as soon as possible to the Head Athletic Trainer.
- No athletic equipment in the Training Room.
- No food or beverage allowed in the Training Room.
- All modalities treatments must be performed by the licensed Athletic Trainer on staff (ice and heat packs are the only exceptions to this rule).
- Please allow suitable time prior to school, practice or games for treatment.
- Being in the Training Room is not an excuse for being late to or missing class.
- Please return all loaned equipment as soon as it is not needed.

- Showering is encouraged prior to treatment and proper attire is necessary and expected at all times.
- Please do not remove or borrow towels without permission.

### **Athletic Treatment/Training Room Hours of Operation:**

The Deweyville Athletic Program uses certified and licensed trainers from Beaumont Bone and Joint. They are usually here on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you need to see the trainer due to a possible injury, please notify a coach as soon as possible. Coaches will encourage athletes to report any injuries or illness without penalty. Coaches will not allow a sick or injured athlete to practice or play without approval of the Athletic Trainer, physician, parent or guardian. Athletes that have gone to a physician and have a prescription with orders will be bound by those orders until released by that physician.

### **Head Injuries/Concussions:**

A concussion is defined as a mild traumatic brain injury caused from a direct blow to the head resulting in physiological changes in brain function. Some of the signs and symptoms are:

Headache, nausea, dizziness, balance problems, feeling foggy, feeling slow, sensitivity to light or noise, concentration or memory problems, irritability, loss of consciousness, etc. Any athlete deemed to have had any of these symptoms resulting from a blow to the head, or head contacting the ground or hard surface needs to be evaluated by the Athletic Trainer or physician prior to returning to practices/games. It is important to let the coaching staff know immediately so that an adjustment in the academic setting can be made and parents can be informed of the changes. Parents and athletes will receive information on what to expect while the athlete recovers. Athletes diagnosed with a concussion, or possible concussion, must complete the Concussion Protocol before being allowed to "return to play".



# PARENT EXPECTATIONS

The following are expectations of parents or family members of players in our athletic program. Please adhere to the following expectations in order to create the positive competitive environment your athlete deserves.

- Do not address your coach/athlete from the stands.
  - Do not verbally abuse any player for any reason
  - Do not address the officials from the stands, especially when you feel a poor call was made.
  - Do not talk unfavorably about the coaching staff or our decisions in front of your athlete.
  - Be supportive and encouraging of your athlete, the team, and the coaching staff.
  - Cheer for our team, not against our opponents.
  - Absolutely no profanity or any type of negative or unsportsmanlike behavior.
  - Never approach the coaching staff after a game to discuss playing time, positioning, substitutions or other game decisions.
- **Failure to comply with the previous expectations may result in dismissal from the athletic contest and possible suspension from further athletic contests.**

## Chain of Command for Parent Concerns

24 Hour Rule: If you have a concern regarding YOUR child, you must allow a 24 hour window before addressing the Head Coach with these concerns. This rule applies to emails, text messages, phone calls or face-to-face conversations. If you are not satisfied with the result of your conversation, then a meeting can be scheduled with the Head Coach and Athletic Director. If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, a final meeting can be scheduled with the Head Coach, Athletic Director and School Principal.

## **STUDENT – PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE DEWEYVILLE ISD ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

I have fully read and agree to comply with the terms of the DISD Athletic Handbook. I do understand that my participation in this program is a privilege and not a right.

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Student Name *(please print)*

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian Name *(please print)*

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date