

# **PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL - ACTIVITY/ATHLETIC/HONOR CODE**

## **Section I: GENERAL PHILOSOPHY**

Interscholastic athletic programs and other extracurricular activities play an important part in the complete high school curriculum. Through self-discipline and regular mental and physical conditioning, participants may enhance their development on an extracurricular and voluntary basis. By offering an athletic and activity program, Plymouth High School extends the privilege of so enriching the mind and body to any student meeting district and Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (W.I.A.A.) requirements. If accepted, this privilege carries certain responsibilities. The Activity/Athletic/Honor Code presents these responsibilities.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The athletic/activity programs provide participants with opportunities—

- To learn to strive for excellence.
- To observe and exemplify good sportsmanship.
- To practice proper habits of health, hygiene and safety.
- For “whole school” interest and activity by involving students other than student participants.
- To learn new skills and develop these skills to maximum effectiveness.
- For lasting friendship both with teammates and opponents.
- For experiences in commitment, dedication, loyalty, and self-discipline.
- To put immediate interest and meaning into the daily lives of student participant/participants and family members; this interest can enhance the participants’ total educational well-being.
- To develop self-image and pride.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Mere participation in the athletic and extracurricular activities program does not guarantee that all aims will be met or that all opportunities will be realized. The activity advisors, coaching staff and administration shall make every effort to teach participants the goals for which the programs were established. Privileges always carry responsibilities. The participant’s greatest responsibility is to be a credit to families, school, community, and self.

## **A STUDENT PARTICIPANT SHALL**

- Strive to do his/her best work in the classroom, remembering that academics always come first.
- Display high standards of social behavior.
- Display high standards of sportsmanship.
- Display proper respect for those in authority.
- Display a real spirit of cooperation and togetherness.
- Display a proper attitude toward his/her personal appearance and hygiene and to his/her eating and sleeping habits.
- Be aware that participation in the athletic and activity program is a privilege, and that representing Plymouth High School and community is an honor.
- Consider the athletic and activity code in effect 12 months of the year.

## **W.I.A.A. ELIGIBILITY**

In order to represent Plymouth High School in any interscholastic competition, a student must meet all eligibility and scholastic requirements of the W.I.A.A. and the Plymouth High School. Listed below are some of the more applicable:

- The participant must be doing passing work in a minimum of four (4) full credit courses. (Comparable to W.I.A.A. standards.)
- The participant should report any failures to the coach of the sport in which he or she is involved.
- The participant must be a legal resident (meet residential eligibility for education purposes) of the Plymouth Joint School District.
- The participant must turn in a physical examination card before participating in any practice sessions. A parent must sign this card unless the student participant is 18 years old.
- A participant shall be ineligible if he or she reaches his or her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.
- The participant must have a completed Parent-Student Acknowledgment Form on file before he/she will be allowed to participate in interscholastic athletics.

## **PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC POLICY FOR A STUDENT PARTICIPANT**

A student participant's grades will be checked by coaches/advisors at the end of the quarters and semesters. A student participant who earns an incomplete "I" or an "F" at any of these time periods will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation will be a period of 5 weeks. A student participant will be able to continue participating in his/her activity during this time. If at the end of the 5-week probation, the student is not passing ALL classes, that student participant will become ineligible for the remainder of that quarter. If at the end of that quarter the student is still not earning passing grades, the suspension will continue. (Mid quarter grades will be used to determine 5 week grades.)

If a student participant is earning more than one (1) "F" or Incomplete "I" at the date quarter and semester grades are posted by the counseling department, that student participant will be placed on an automatic suspension for one (1) quarter without probationary period. If an incomplete grade is changed to a passing grade in the counseling office, a student participant may regain eligibility. Incompletes must be changed to passing grade before mid-quarter grade posting (5 weeks). A student participant once placed on suspension must break the string of "F's" or "I's" at a quarter or semester grading period to regain eligibility. It is our belief that a student participant must be on line for graduation. If a student participant fails a required course, he/she must reschedule that class at the earliest time possible to earn credit.

## **RELATED EXPECTATIONS**

- Any unexcused absence on the day of an event (or on Friday preceding a Saturday event) will prohibit the student from participating that day.
- Absence from classes after fifth period due to illness on the day of a contest or activity will make the student ineligible to participate that afternoon or evening unless written medical permission is granted.
- Be in good standing as related to attendance.

## **Section II: CODE VIOLATION**

### **GROUND'S FOR SUSPENSION**

*Any Board Policy in effect supersedes the Athletic and Activity Code where applicable.*

1. Using alcohol, tobacco, other detrimental drugs, and/or controlled substances (including vaping) at any time.
2. Being involved in the purchase, possession, sale, and/or transportation of alcohol and/or illegal drugs (or controlled substances).
3. Knowingly loitering in the presence of illegal consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs (drinking party, bar, etc.). Any student participant who remains for any length of time will be subject to questioning.
4. Stealing of any kind (this includes illegal possession of school equipment from Plymouth or any other school or possession of any property that has been stolen).
5. Vandalism
6. Hazing - defined as intentionally or recklessly engaging in acts that endangers the physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating in the school. [S.948.51, Wisconsin Statutes]
7. Violation of the school's academic integrity policy.
8. Suspension from school or being removed from a home or away activity for inappropriate behavior.
9. Any violation of the school board policy dealing with harassment, assault, or violence.
10. Any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principles, standards, and morals of the school and the community.

**NOTE:** The administration and the Activity Board of Review are allowed flexibility by this code to take appropriate action in cases not covered by the terms of this code.

## CONSEQUENCES

Activity code suspensions are cumulative for 12 months. If a student participant commits another violation within 12 months, the penalty will be added as follows:

- **First offense:**
  - Exclusion from 25% of the season for sports or related activities that perform or compete.
  - Students are also prohibited from Honors of the School for the season of the violation.
- **Second offense:**
  - Exclusion from 50% of the season for sports or related activities that perform or compete.
  - Students are also prohibited from Honors of the School for the season of the violation.
- **Third offense:**
  - Exclusion from all sports or activities that perform or compete for one calendar year.
  - Students are also prohibited from Honors of the School for one calendar year.

### **Honors of the School:**

Officers/Chairpersons

School/Team Awards

Captains

- *This list is not intended to be inclusive; it will change as honors are created/deleted.*

*Note: Loitering in the presence of alcohol or illegal drugs will warrant a one game/event suspension.*

**ALTERNATIVES:** This list of alternatives is designed to help students change their behavior and show good faith in serving themselves, their fellow students, and the school as a whole. The Athletic/Activity Director may approve a plan of action selected from the list below for any student to reduce his or her consequence by up to half for the first offense only.

- Community Service
- School Service
- Written letters of apology
- Restitution
- Educational requirement (teaching: AODA class)
- Empathy session (shadowing)
- Referral--counseling

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR SEVERE BEHAVIOR**

Severe behavior may include, but is not limited to, any felony, delivery of drugs, or possession of a weapon. The consequence will be prohibition from all extracurricular activities and honors of the school for a period of one year.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

To initiate disciplinary action against a student participant, the accuser must submit a report of an alleged violation to the Principal, Associate Principal, Athletic/Activity Director, or member of the coaching staff. The Athletic/Activity Director will assess all reports of violation and determine the appropriate degree of investigation. If necessary, arrangements will be made to begin Step 1, The Formal Conference.

### **Step 1 - The Formal Conference**

When a student participant is reported for a code violation, he/she will attend a conference with the Athletic/Activity Director. Attempts will be made to contact parents before this conference is held. If this contact is not possible, parents may request a second conference to clarify information and procedure. The purpose of the formal conference is to confirm the facts surrounding the alleged violations and to assess a penalty should it be deemed necessary. Any suspension will begin immediately following the formal conference.

A student participant and his/her parent may appeal decisions made in the formal conference to the board of review. A request for a hearing before this board must be made to the Principal no more than 24 hours after the action of the formal conference is finalized with the student participant and parents. The Principal will review the case with the parents, student participant, and Athletic/Activity Director to determine the need for a board of review.

### **Step 2 - Activity Board of Review**

**Purpose:** The activity board of review shall, upon request, interpret, review, and pass judgment on alleged violations of established rules and regulations for all student participants representing Plymouth High School.

**Organization:** The activity board of review shall be comprised of a coach/advisor of the team of which the student is a part (or which the student participant would like to become a part), two faculty members, and three student representatives appointed by the student council president. The Principal, or designated

representative, will be chairman of the activity board of review. The chairman will not vote. Alternates may be appointed for any hearing, but at least six voting members must always be present.

**Procedure:** If it is deemed there is a need, this board shall meet as soon as possible without interrupting class time. During the interim between the receipt of a report of alleged violation and the actual hearing, the student participant will be not be able to participate. The activity board will then meet in a hearing with the student participant, his/her parents, and counsel, if requested, to review the facts of the case. A majority vote of the board is required for any action. The board's findings shall be made available immediately and shall be put in written form and presented to the parents or guardians within one week of the board's hearing. Any suspension decided or upheld by the board of review will begin immediately after the hearing. All cases are subject to review if the activity board feels sufficient new facts have been introduced.

### **WIAA-Endorsed Sports**

Baseball  
Basketball  
Cross Country  
Dance Team  
Football  
Golf  
Hockey  
Soccer  
Softball  
Swim & Dive  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Volleyball  
Wrestling

### **Related Activities/Sports that Compete or Perform**

FBLA  
FFA  
Trap Team  
Nordic Ski Team  
Bowling Team  
Equestrian Team  
Robo Riot Robotics  
Academic Bowl  
Jolly Pranksters  
Math Team  
Chess Club  
Model UN  
Panther Tech Club

Show Choir  
Musical  
Forensics  
One-Act Play  
German Band  
Fall Play

- *This list is not intended to be inclusive; it will change as activities are created or deleted.*
- *Activities that do not compete or perform will create and communicate their own policies.*

# PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY/ATHLETIC/HONOR CODE OF CONDUCT

The signatures below indicate that the participant and parent/guardian have read the Plymouth High School Activity/Athletic/Honor Code of Conduct and understand the rules.

PARTICIPANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Participant's Signature)

Date

PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Date

**NOTE:** This signed form must be on file in the high school office before an individual can participate in any extra-curricular activity. Plymouth High School knows that education works best when school and parents work together in a student's best interest. Plymouth High School asks for your support and pledges to do our best to continue the tradition of excellence in Plymouth.

.....  
FOR OFFICE USE:

DATE ATHLETIC CODE FILED: \_\_\_\_\_

