

Vanderbilt Area School

Athletic Code of Conduct

2022-2023

The Athletic Code of Conduct will be reviewed prior to the start of each school year by the Athletic Director and Principal. Student Athletes are required to submit a signed Code of Conduct Consent Form for each year in grades 6 - 12 before participation in any contests.

Changes to the Code of Conduct are to be made only with the approval of the Board of Education. Reasonable interpretations of how policies are applied are at the discretion of the Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director.

Student Athlete – Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Consent Form

We, the undersigned, acknowledge the risks of practicing or participating in athletics at Vanderbilt Area School. We have read and understand the Code of Conduct and the conditions if an infraction occurs. We agree to uphold the rules and regulations set forth by Vanderbilt Area School, the Michigan High School Athletic Association and any Co-Op opportunities on a year round basis. We understand this Code of Conduct is in effect for all sports played during the current school year and will remain in effect until a new form is signed and submitted.

Student Athlete Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone Number _____ (Call and/or Text?)

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Email _____

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Athletics are part of the overall educational program at Vanderbilt Area School. We believe that participation in athletics provides our students with a wide variety of rewarding experiences and the opportunity to develop many worthwhile traits.

Participation in athletics develops a student's self-respect, self-discipline, character, leadership skills, decision-making skills, and social skills. Participation in athletics also develops a knowledge base and appreciation of physical fitness, which will promote continued physical fitness as a lifelong goal.

Participation provides student-athletes the opportunity to cooperate with other individuals to achieve common goals, create a respect for competition, and develop a sense of sportsmanship.

We believe it is an honor to represent Vanderbilt Area School, our alumni, fellow students, staff, and the citizens of Vanderbilt as a student athlete.

I. ATHLETIC POLICIES

The following policies will apply to all student athletes. Violations of these policies will result in disciplinary action.

- A. In addition to the Michigan High School Athletic Association's most current academic requirements, starting with the 2022-2023 school year and from this point forward, student athletes must pass all of their classes with a minimum grade of 60% in order to be deemed eligible for participation in sports.
 1. *Previous Academic Record:* Student athletes must have passed a minimum of 66% of full credit load potential for the last semester enrolled. Student athletes entering the 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his or her record in the 8th grade.
 2. *Eligibility:* Weekly eligibility checks will be performed for all student athletes participating in the current season, 6-12 grade. Student athletes declared

academically ineligible will be notified in person by the Athletic Director.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will also be notified by phone or email. Eligibility checks will be enforced on Monday and will be in effect for one calendar week. Grades will be checked by 9:00 a.m. on Monday morning and student athletes will be notified immediately if they are ineligible. Student athletes will be given time to raise their grades by Monday at 3:00 p.m. If grades are not raised the following will occur:

- The first offense will exclude the student athlete from participating in all scheduled contests for the week. Student athletes are expected to attend games, but must remain on the bench, not dressed in uniform. Practice will not be affected.
- The second offense will exclude the student athlete from attending both contests and practice for the week.
- The third offense will result in mandatory Study Hall to be served after school in the office. Students will again be excluded from attending both contests and practice for the week. This will continue each time a student athlete is deemed ineligible for the remainder of the season. Failure to attend Study Hall will result in the removal from current team.

- B. Student athletes must have a current Physical on file with the Athletic Office before participating in any practice or contest. Physicals performed on or after April 15 will be accepted for the following school year.
- C. Student athletes must be in school all day in order to practice or participate in contests scheduled for that day. Scheduled doctor appointments must be accompanied by a doctor's note. Family emergencies and extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration. Exceptions to this may be granted by the Athletic Director or Principal.
- D. All student athletes must travel to and return from "away" contests with the team except with prior written approval to the Athletic Director 24 hours in advance. (*See attached form*) Notifying the coach the night of a contest should be avoided unless extenuating circumstances prevent prior written notification to the Athletic Director.
- E. Student athletes are financially responsible for the care and condition of uniforms and equipment issued to them. Student athletes must return all equipment and uniforms at

the conclusion of the season. Failure to do so will result in the athlete being prohibited from his or her next season of participation until equipment is returned or the school is reimbursed for the cost of replacement uniforms and/or equipment.

- F. Student athletes are required to keep their personal belongings in the locker rooms during practices and contests. All lockers should be secured with a lock. Loss of any and all personal items will not be the responsibility of the school.
- G. Student athletes are required to treat equipment and facilities with care and respect. This also includes the equipment and facilities at “away” venues and co-op opportunities.
- H. Student athletes are required to report all injuries to his or her coach. A student athlete that has been withheld from participation by a doctor will not be reinstated until cleared to participate in writing by a doctor.
- I. The coach of each team will evaluate the abilities and condition of each student athlete to determine the amount of contest playing time.
- J. Student athletes will adhere to additional team rules established by the coach. Team rules may include, but are not limited to, dressing up on game days, curfews the night before games, or personal grooming.

II. TRAINING RULES

Training rules are in effect on a year round basis. These rules apply to all student athletes, grades 6 - 12. A student entering the 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his or her 8th grade record. The following rules are punishable offenses:

1. Use or possession of tobacco, e-cigarettes, alcohol, illegal or prescription drugs in any form.
2. Participation in activities that condones the use of any of the above listed substances.

3. Acts of dishonesty or unlawfulness other than routine traffic violations on or off school property.
4. Acts committed inside or outside of school that are deemed detrimental to the school or athletic program.
5. Accumulation of three or more days of suspension per school year.

III. SUSPENSIONS

All suspensions pertaining to the Training Rules will be administered as follows:

- A. A first-time violation will result in the student athlete being given two options.
 1. *Option 1* would result in a suspension of 50% of scheduled contests for the current or next season. Number of contests will be determined by the current contest potential load per MHSAA.
 2. *Option 2* would result in a suspension of 25% of scheduled contests for the current or next season, and the completion of 15 hours of community service. Number of contests will be determined by the current contest potential load per MHSAA.
 - Service hours must be completed through a non-profit or be approved by the Athletic Director before reinstatement will be issued.
 - Student athletes must maintain academic eligibility for contests to be counted toward their suspension.
 - Student athletes declared academically ineligible during Option 2 will immediately be placed under Option 1.
 - Student athletes must also attend all practices and contests during their suspension in order for missed contests to be counted.
 3. A second violation will result in a suspension of 365 calendar days.

IV. Self Disclosure

A student athlete who admits to his or her violation prior to the investigation will be given the option of reducing his or her suspension dates or hours. This will be offered one time during a career.

V. DUE PROCESS

All student athletes involved in disciplinary action are allowed to appeal the facts of the situation. An appeal must be made within the hierarchy of Vanderbilt Area School as follows:

1. Head Coach
2. Athletic Director
3. Principal
4. Superintendent
5. Board of Education



Vanderbilt Area School

The mission of the Vanderbilt Area School is to graduate respectful, responsible, lifelong learners empowered to meet future challenges.

Student Athlete – Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Transportation Permission Form

24 hour advanced noticed is required.

I, the undersigned, am asking for permission to take my student athlete home from the following game/activity. I understand I may only transport my child unless arrangements have been approved through the Athletic Director and a corresponding family. Forms are required for both parties. I understand not every request will be approved and if denied my student athlete will return home with the team.

Student Athlete(s) Name(s): _____

Game/Activity Location: _____

Date of Contest: _____

Reason for request: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature: _____

Date: _____

For Office Use:

Date Received by Athletic Director: _____ Approved _____ Declined _____

Athletic Director Signature: _____

Date: _____