

2018/2019

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

RIVER VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

FINLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

HANDBOOK FOR STUDENT ATHLETES, CHEERLEADERS AND DANCE TEAM

One of the good things about the interscholastic athletic program is that it is completely voluntary. Participation is not required for graduation, nor do you need athletic credits for college entrance. Involvement in the sports program does, however, require extra effort and extra time beyond the school day on a voluntary basis.

Although interscholastic athletics are voluntary, those participating do represent their student bodies, families and communities. Therefore, the standards must be kept high; this includes athletic requirements, citizenship, sportsmanship, conduct and loyalty. Lowering the standards by either the individual or the team to win games is self-defeating. The dignity of the total school program is also reflected in the athletic program. Thus it is important that student athletes conduct themselves in a manner above reproach.

SECTION I: RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations apply to a student athlete year around, both in-season and out-of-season.

Alcohol and/or Substance Abuse Definitions /Terms.

▪ Actual possession	The act of having a substance in one's custody or control. Actual possession occurs when the item is in physical custody of the person charged with possession.
▪ Construction possession	In the absence of physical possession if there is dominion and control over the substance – such as knowledge that alcohol, legend drugs or illegal substances are available and are being used by others – student athletes have the responsibility to remove themselves beyond all reasonable doubt and proximity from that situation. At off campus events, where drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances are evident, student athletes who have made a willful choice to remain at the event are in violation of the rule.
▪ Use	Physical consumption of any illegal substance by any means.
▪ Sale	The act of distribution an illegal substance by means of exchanging substances for an agreed sum of money or other valuable consideration.
▪ Proximity	Close in distance, time or relationship (commingling or interacting) with other students coming or going from a social gathering, whether inside location or outside location (yard, street, neighborhood)
▪ Discovery-investigative	The process by which an administrator/coach/adviser, arrives at a conclusion regarding a student's involvement in an activities code infraction without the student's full/honest cooperation. The decision will be based on evidence either verbal, or written.
▪ Discovery-self admittance	Participants who admit to their involvement in an activity code infraction within two working days of the initial administrative contact.

Activities Suspension/Expulsion Investigative Conference (Substance Issues/Advanced Behavioral Issues)

• Prior to the suspension or expulsion of any student participant, a conference will be conducted with the student as follows:

- The Principal/Designee will present to the student participant an oral and/or written notice of alleged misconduct and violation (s) of school district rules, the evidence in support of the allegations, and the corrective action or sanction to be recommended.
- The student participant will be provided the opportunity to present an explanation.
- Following the conference with the student, the principal/or designee may recommend activity suspension or expulsion.
- If the principal/designee imposes athletic suspension or expulsion, the student participant will be orally notified of the action taken. Within 5 working days, a certified, written notice will be sent by mail to the student's parent/guardian containing the following information: The action taken (suspension, expulsion, etc.), the reason for such disciplinary action, and the right to a building administrative conference.

1st Violation In-Season/Out of Season (Substance Issues, not including tobacco)

<u>Means of Discovery</u>	<u>Actual Possession/Use/Sale</u>	<u>Constructive/Proximity Possession</u>
Investigative	<i>Suspension for 50% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 50% of current remains). <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 5)</u></i>	<i>Suspension for 40% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 40% of current remains). <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 5)</u></i>
Self Admittance	<i>Suspension for 30% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 30% of current remains). 10% of the season may be held in abeyance by the principal. <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 5)</u></i>	<i>Suspension for 20% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 20% of current remains). 10% of the season may be held in abeyance by the principal. <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 5)</u></i>

2nd Violation In-Season/Out of Season (Substance Issues, not including tobacco)

<u>Means of Discovery</u>	<u>Actual Possession/Use/Sale/Constructive/Proximity Possession</u>
Investigative	<i>Suspension for 100% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 100% of current remains). <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 6)</u></i>
Self Admittance	<i>Suspension for 60% of current (or next played) season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 60% of current remains). 10% of the season may be held in abeyance by the principal. <u>Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues, see pg. 6)</u></i>

3rd Violation In-Season/Out of Season (Substance Issues, not including tobacco)

Whether in season or out of season, a third violation of the activities code for alcohol and/or substance abuse will result in expulsion from all activities in the Finley School District.

Tobacco Violations In Season/Out of Season

1st violation

Suspension for 10% of current season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 10% of current remains), take a 4 hour tobacco education/prevention course as recommended by the FSD Drug/Alcohol Interventionist, Written request for re-instatement from both parents and athlete which includes a summary of the progress relating to steps taken, to be taken, and a reflection and self-evaluation of the behavior.

2nd and subsequent violations

Suspension for 20% of current season's contests, including post-season (and into the next season if less than 20% of current remains), take a 20 hour tobacco cessation class as recommended by the FSD Drug/Alcohol Interventionist. Written request for re-instatement from both parents and athlete which includes a summary of the progress relating to steps taken, to be taken, and a reflection and self-evaluation of the behavior.

Steroids and Legend Drugs Violation In Season/Out of Season Legend drugs are any drug including anabolic steroids that can only be legally obtained by prescription.

- Penalties for violation of RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 (Legends Drugs including anabolic steroids possession, sale, and/or use) – A violation of RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 will be considered a violation of the eligibility code and standards and will subject the student to disciplinary actions. The following penalties will be administered:
- **FIRST VIOLATION** - The student athlete will be immediately expelled from interscholastic competition in the current interscholastic sport program for the remainder of the season. Expulsion will continue until the next sports season in which the student athlete wishes to turn out. In order to be reinstated in the next interscholastic sports season, the student athlete will follow the FSD re-instatement process. The school principal will have the final authority as to the student athlete's participation in the interscholastic school program.

A student athlete who seeks and receives help for a problem with use of legend drugs (RCW 69.41.010 identified substances) will be given the opportunity for assistance through the school and/or community agencies. In no instance will participation in a school and/or community-approved assistance program excuse a student athlete from subsequent compliance with this regulation. Successful utilization of this opportunity by the student athlete may allow him/her to participate in the athletic program, pending recommendation by the school eligibility authority.

- **SECOND VIOLATION** – A student athlete who again violates any provision of RCW 64.41.020 through 69.41.050 will be ineligible and prohibited from participating in any WIAA member school interscholastic sports program for a period of one calendar year from the date of the second violation. In order to be reinstated after the calendar year, the student athlete will follow the FSD re-instatement process. The school principal will have the final authority as to the student athlete's participation in the interscholastic school program.

- **THIRD VIOLATION** – A student athlete who violates for a third time RCW 69.41.020 – 69.41.050 will be permanently prohibited from participation in any WIAA member school athletic program.

After the violation, only students who seek help by enrolling in an approved school or community Program may be reinstated into the athletic program by the principal or his/her designee. After a violation, entry into a new sport is not automatic. The student who violated must meet with the school eligibility board and they will recommend whether or not the student will be allowed to participate.

Violations are accumulative from grades 7 through 12 and from school to school and from district to district.

Reinstatement Process (REQUIRED following suspension for substance issues):

The building principal may reinstate to competition/activity upon the completion of the following:

- Drug and/or alcohol assessment (including urinalysis assessment) conducted by the FSD Intervention Specialist and/or FSD designee. Parents and/or guardians are required to participate in the drug and/or alcohol written/oral assessment process.
- Proof that a drug/alcohol, counseling, or preventive education program (as a requirement after the written/oral assessment) has been substantially completed (substantial means on-going attendance).
- Proof that (10-1st violation; 20-2nd violation) community service hours arranged through appropriate agencies and approved by the principal/designee has been substantially completed.
- Written request for re-instatement from both parents and athlete which includes a summary of the progress relating to steps taken, to be taken, and a reflection and self-evaluation of the behavior.

Appeal Procedure

Appeals to any athletic disciplinary action will follow the same appeal process as outlined in the RVHS student handbook.

Further Expectations:

Physical Appearance. An athlete shall maintain the dress and grooming standards of the team as established by the coach and administration. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offenses: Suspension from the activity for five school days.

School Conduct. Student athletes are expected to be good citizens in school at all times. Disruptive behavior, persistent tardiness, truancy, and other violations of school regulations are inexcusable. An athlete must realize that his primary purpose in attending school is to acquire an education; therefore, any conduct that is detrimental to this purpose is unacceptable.

Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Conduct. An athlete shall exhibit appropriate conduct in practices and/or contests. First offense: Verbal warning by coach. Second offense: Possible one contest suspension, at the discretion of the coach and Athletic Director. Third offense: Suspension from activity for five school days.

Sportsmanship. Student athletes representing the team of River View High School are expected to exemplify the highest standards of good sportsmanship. The qualities of sportsman are courteousness, fairness, and respectfulness – to officials, teammates, opponents, coaches, and all others associated with the sport or contest.

Profane and Obscene Language. The use of profane or obscene language and/or acts of vulgarity is prohibited.

Regular Attendance at School.** *An athlete shall attend school for at least one-half (1/2) day on the day of an athletic contest and on practice days in order to be eligible to participate that day. “One – half day” means at least three class periods. If unexcused for any portion of the day, the athlete shall be ineligible to participate. An athlete who is suspended from school may not participate in a game or practice on that day.**

All delinquent detention must be served before a student may participate in practice or game. (Detention must be served within five days of assignment or it is considered delinquent.)

High School:

Academic Requirements: Requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities, students shall achieve all of the following:

1. High School students must be enrolled in and regularly attend a minimum of five (5) classes per day.
2. Maintain a passing grade in all classes (no “F”s”).
3. **ACADEMIC SUSPENSION PERIOD** – A student who has been in regular attendance at least fifteen(15) weeks of the previous semester, but who failed to pass all classes during that semester to make grade requirements, shall be placed on suspension. The student shall be ineligible during the suspension period. The student may practice with the team. If, at the end of the suspension period, the student is passing all classes, the student may then be reinstated for interscholastic competition.
 - a. The suspension period for high school students shall be as follows:
 - i. **First Semester:** From the first day of school through the last Saturday of September.
 - ii. **Second Semester:** For five (5) weeks beginning the first day of the second semester.
 - b. Each student is eligible on Monday of the week following the end of the suspension period. Three or more teaching days shall constitute a week.
4. To monitor a student’s continued academic eligibility; we will use the first and third quarter report card grades and will conduct mid-quarter grade checks in all four quarters to make sure of continued academic eligibility. If a student is not passing all classes, he/she will be ineligible until all classes have passing grades.
5. Those students that do not meet eligibility requirements at the semester, quarter and mid-quarter grade checks, will have to do weekly grade checks to remain eligible. These are to be turned into their coach.
6. Appeals: Under unusual circumstances, such as extreme hardships, students may appeal the discipline measures resulting from these academic eligibility requirements to the Principal. You may get this form from the Principal or Athletic Director. After completing this form, return it to the Principal.

Middle School:

Academic Requirements: As minimum requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities, students shall achieve all of the following:

1. Student must be passing all classes at Finley Middle School to be eligible to participate in any school sponsored activity.
2. Students will be checked at the end of each mid-quarter, quarter, and semester to determine eligibility.
3. Students who are placed on the ineligibility list will stay on that list until the end of each eligibility check. At which time the list will be updated.
4. An ineligible student must take around an eligibility form on Friday to get eligible for the following week. Each of the student's teachers and the building administrator must sign the form. Eligibility forms will be available in the office for student to pick up. At this time the student will be eligible for the following week only.
5. Student seeking eligibility must be cleared through the regular school hours, 7:30am to 2:30 pm.
6. Appeals: Under unusual circumstances, such as extreme hardships, students may appeal the discipline measures resulting from these academic eligibility requirements to the Eligibility Review Committee. You may get this form from the Principal or Athletic Director. After completing this form, return it to the Principal. A student who does not meet the eligibility requirements shall be placed on probation during the first three (3) weeks of the succeeding quarter. They may participate during practice, but will be ineligible to play in competitions during this time. If, at the end of the probation period, the student has raised his/her grades to meet this standard, he/she will again be eligible to participate. Those students will still have to do weekly grade checks to remain eligible for the remainder of that quarter. All students will have to complete mid-quarter grade checks to remain eligible for that quarter. If failing they will have weekly grade checks for the remainder of that quarter.

Absence from Practice. An athlete is expected to be in attendance at all team practices unless excused for illness or by prior approval. Penalty: First offence: verbal warning by coach and appropriate practice conditioning. Second offence: Ineligible to participate in next contest.

Violation of Civil Law. If a student is found guilty of a civil offense while on school grounds or at a school activity, the penalty will be based upon the nature of the violation. The penalty will not be invoked until the student has been found guilty.

Repeated Offenses: If a student repeatedly violates one or more of the above rules, he/she may, at the discretion of the coach and Athletic Director, be suspended for the sports season.

Participation. In order for a student athlete to participate on any athletic team, he must have on file in the activities office a record of the following:

1. Physical Examination and Physician's Signature (Physicals are good for 1 year.)
2. Medical Emergency Authorization Form
3. Medical Insurance or Parent-signed Waiver
4. Concussion Information Sheet & Signatures of Parent and Student
5. Student-Parent/Guardians Warning & Assumption of Risk Form
6. Signature of parent and athlete signifying they have read and accepted the handbook regulations.
7. Catastrophic Insurance at a cost of \$3.00. NOTE: THIS IS NOT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

SECTION II: EQUIPMENT

Issued Equipment. School equipment checked out by the student athlete is his responsibility. He is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Loss of issued equipment or damage to issued equipment will be paid for by the student at replacement cost.

Wearing Issued Equipment. Issued equipment is to be worn only while participating with the team in practice or during scheduled contests. The WIAA prohibits the use of school-issued equipment while participating in any event outside the yearly school program or activities not sponsored by the WIAA or authorized by school officials.

School Equipment. The school district provides students with excellent physical facilities for athletes at great expense to parents and community members in the form of taxes; therefore, it is important that students exercise care and personal regard for these areas.

Misuse of dressing areas, lockers, towels, soap, benches, gymnasium or field facilities will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with this regulation could result in denial of their use. Students are required to pay a \$2.00 towel fee per sport if they choose to use the school's towels. They may choose to use their own towels from home; it is not required for them to use the school's towels.

SECTION III. AWARDS

An athletic award is a symbol of athletic accomplishment, good sportsmanship and observance of athletic policies. Since the award is a symbol of accomplishment, its value lies in its implication rather than its monetary worth.

In order to qualify for an athletic letter, a student athlete must meet the requirements set forth by the head coach of the sport and be recommended by the head coach. Athletic awards and letters shall only be presented to participants who complete the entire season for a given sport. (This does not apply to participants who are unable to complete a season due to illness or injury.)

Scholar athlete awards will be awarded at the end of each sport season to those athletes maintaining a 3.3 grade point average for the season. The student with the highest grade point average in each sport who hasn't already earned the patch will receive a patch. This patch can be earned once every two years. There will be a varsity and non-varsity award for each sport.

Upon voluntarily dropping out of a sport or being dropped from the squad for disciplinary reasons, an athlete automatically forfeits any points, award, or letter he might have received in that sport.

SECTION IV: TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from athletic contests will be provided by the Finley School District.

1. All participants must travel to and from athletic contests with the team and in transportation provided for this purpose. (Only on personal request by the parent or guardian to the Athletic Director or coach prior to the event will this be altered.)

2. Team members will remain with the team and under the supervision of the coaching staff when attending away games.
3. Team members will refrain from misconduct while traveling to and from contests.
4. Team members are requested to dress appropriately and in good taste.

18.9.0 REGULAR ATTENDANCE – The student shall be enrolled in regular attendance within the first fifteen(15) school days in a semester or (10) school days in a trimester at the start of the current semester/trimester in order to participate in the interscholastic contests during the current semester/trimester.

18.9.1 An enrolled student who receives semester/trimester grades will be considered to have been in attendance for that semester/trimester unless he/she is withdrawn from school.

(These ruling are from the 2011-2012 WIAA Handbook)

THE FINLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extra-curricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures may be directed to the School District's Title IX Office and/or Section 504 Coordinator.

Title IX Officer:	Special Services Manager
Address:	224606 E. Game Farm Road Kennewick, WA 99337
Telephone:	(509) 586-3217
FAX:	(509) 586-4408
e-mail:	lhahn@finleysd.org