

TUNKHANNOCK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
General Athletic/Extra-Curricular Rules and Regulations

When a student participates in an interscholastic sport, club or other extra-curricular activity in the Tunkhannock Area School District, he/she must obey all of the rules and regulations governing athletic programs/extra-curricular activities in the district. These rules and regulations have been established by the Tunkhannock Area School District (TASD) administration and, to the extent they relate to interscholastic athletics, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). Athletic programs/extra-curricular activities refers to any activity that is not graded and includes, but is not limited to, all school athletic programs and teams, cheerleading, clubs, plays, and all other school organizations such as the Student Council and the National Honor Society.

The rules and regulations are as follows (as indicated below, certain rules and regulations are applicable only to student athletes):

1. No student shall be eligible to represent his/her school in any athletic contest unless he/she has been carefully examined by the school or family physician and his/her parent/guardian's consent and a signed copy of this document shall be filed in the office of the Athletic Director.
2. A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition upon attaining the age of 19 years, with the following exception: If the age of 19 is attained on or after July 1, the student shall be eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year.
3. If a student has been absent from school ten (10) days in a semester, he/she immediately becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletic participation/extra-curricular participation until he/she has attended school for a total of

sixty (60) days after the date of the last absence. Extended illnesses may be an exception with a doctor's excuse.

4. Students' grades will be checked every week. The student/athlete must be passing all core subjects or he/she is ineligible for the subsequent week, Sunday through Saturday. A core subject is defined as a course that is worth one (1) credit for a full year's worth of work. To be reinstated at the end of the seven (7) day period, the student must be passing all core subjects. Those students who still fail to meet the academic requirement at the end of the marking period will remain ineligible until the next report card or progress report that would verify eligibility (a maximum of twenty [20] days). **Those students deemed ineligible by the District's standards have the option to attend study hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:20 pm to 5:30 pm in order to participate in practice in their respective sport and/or extracurricular activity during their week(s) of ineligibility. Those students that wish not to attend the study hall will not be permitted to participate in practice in their respective sport and/or extracurricular activity during their week(s) of ineligibility. It is the choice of the student to either attend or not attend study hall. Those student-athletes who are deemed ineligible by PIAA standards (not passing a minimum of four core credits) will not be permitted to participate in both practice and competition whether they attend study hall or not. All rules and procedures still apply to competitions and extracurricular events while attending study hall during the student's week(s) of ineligibility.**

5. A student shall not represent their school in interscholastic athletics if they have been in attendance more than eight semesters beyond the eighth grade and/or played six seasons beyond the sixth grade or completed the work in grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve inclusive.
6. Students who are assigned to internal suspension cannot participate in any practice, meeting, event, activity, or in a game on the day(s) of their suspension.
7. If a student is assigned external suspension, the same rules set forth in paragraph 6 above applies. If the external suspension is on a Friday, the student also will be ineligible to participate on the following Saturday or Sunday.
8. Students must attend a full day of school or they will not be permitted to participate in that day's practice, meeting, event, activity or game. Students who are late must have an excuse approved by the school administration.
9. Students will have two weeks from the date detention is assigned to make up detention hours. If the student fails to comply with this requirement, the student will not be permitted to participate in any practices, meetings, activities, events or games until the hours are made up.
10. Student behavior before, during or after practices, meetings, events, activities or games must be exemplary. Profanity, obscene language, obscene gestures or other forms of inappropriate behaviors are not acceptable. Any of these acts may result in disciplinary action or removal from the game, practice, meeting, activity, event, club, organization, and/or team.
11. All equipment assigned, given to, or used by a student is the responsibility of that student and must be cared for by the student. Equipment must be returned in good repair and condition (reasonable wear and tear excepted)

within one (1) week after the conclusion of the season or activity. Students who fail to turn in equipment on time or pay for lost/unreasonably damaged equipment will not be permitted to participate in any athletic program/extracurricular activities until this obligation is met.

12. The use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, drugs and tobacco or tobacco products is prohibited. A violation of this regulation will be covered by the school's alcohol, drug and tobacco policies 222, 227, 227.1 and 227.2.
13. Any Level III offense, which results in an expulsion of more than ten (10) days will cause the student to miss the remainder of that sports season or extra-curricular activity. If the expulsion runs into another athletic season or extra-curricular activity, the student may not begin practice or become involved in such other activity until the expulsion is served. In the absence of a defined season or time period, the student will again be eligible to participate ninety (90) calendar days after the last day of the suspension or expulsion.
14. Pennsylvania Act 1989-93 prohibits the use of anabolic steroids, except for a valid medical purpose, by any student involved in school-related athletics. The Act also requires the School Board to prescribe the following minimum penalties for any student found in violation of the rules and regulations adopted by the School Board.
  - a. For a first violation, suspension from school activity for twenty (20) days, or the remainder of the season, or the remainder of the semester (in the absence of a defined season), whichever is greater.
  - b. For a second violation, suspension from any/all school activities for a period of one (1) calendar year from the time of the violation.

- c. For a third violation, permanent suspension from all school extra-curricular activities.
- 15. Hazing will not be tolerated. Hazing is defined in TASD Policy #247 as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board.
- 16. Any rules and regulations provided to student athletes must be reviewed by the Athletic Director prior to being distributed to the student. Once approved by the Athletic Director, the written rules may be distributed. Coaches' rules may not supersede the PIAA rules and regulations or school district policy. Any rules and regulations provided to a student in connection with any extra-curricular activity must be reviewed and approved by the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or Principal before it may be distributed to the student.

These rules and regulations are meant to work in conjunction with PIAA rules and regulations and school district polices. They shall not supersede nor limit the school district's polices, rules or regulations.

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This is to certify that I have received a copy of the Tunkhannock Area School District General Athletic/Extra-Curricular Rules and Regulations for the \_\_\_\_\_ school year. I understand that I am expected to read it, to understand the policies and to abide by the rules and regulations set forth herein.

Both the student the parent must sign this document before the student may participate in any school athletic/extra-curricular program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

Approved 3/22/07