

# *Sabinal Independent School District*



## **Extracurricular Handbook 2017-2018**

The Sabinal I.S.D. Extracurricular Handbook contains a general statement of the administrative regulations governing the overall extracurricular program. Provisions of this Extracurricular Handbook may be expanded, modified, or revoked only by action of the Principal, Superintendent, or the Board of Trustees. If any of the provisions of the Extracurricular Handbook conflict with federal or state laws and regulations, or board policy, those provisions are superseded by applicable law or board policy.

## EXPLANATION OF EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Parenting, coach/sponsoring and sponsorship are extremely challenging to relationships. By developing a working relationship and understanding of each of our roles, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach/sponsor of the child's program.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach/sponsor:

1. Locations and times of practices and contest
2. Team requirements, special equipment, and out-of-season requirements

Communication coach/sponsors and sponsors expect from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach/sponsor.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance

As your child becomes involved in the extracurricular programs at Sabinal ISD, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child desire. At these times, discussion with the coach/sponsor is encouraged. Examples of these situations include the treatment of you child, ways to help your child improve, concerns about your child's attitude, or academic support.

Sometimes it may be difficult to understand why your child is not getting as much playing time, or why they are not playing the position they desire. It will be the coach/sponsor's discretion to make all decisions about playing time or position for individual student-participants.

Coaches/Sponsors are professionals. They make judgments based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. **Team strategy, other student-athletes, and playing time are** areas that will be left to the discretion of the coach/sponsor.

## PARENT EXPECTATIONS

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach/ sponsor and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote resolution.

1. Call the coach/sponsor to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach/sponsor cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director or Principal. A meeting will be set up for you.
3. **Please do not attempt to confront a coach/sponsor before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach/sponsor. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.**

If the meeting with the coach/sponsor does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the next step is to set up an appointment with the *Extracurricular Director*.

A student involved in extracurricular activities has greater success during adulthood; these extracurricular programs have been established to provide life-long learning experiences. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school.

## **ACADEMICS REQUIREMENTS**

### **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE AS LONG AS THEY . . .**

- are not high school graduates;
- are full-time students;
- have attended classes since 6th day of class of the present school year, or have been enrolled and in regular attendance for 15 or more calendar days before the contest;
- are eligible under no-pass, no play;
- have the required number of credits for eligibility;
- are enrolled in a four year program of high school courses;
- initially enrolled in the 9th grade not more than four years ago, or in the 10th grade not more than three years ago (students may apply for waivers);
- were not recruited;
- are not in violation of awards rule.

### **Eligibility for UIL Participants for the First Six Weeks**

- UIL participants are eligible to participate in contests during the first six weeks of the school year provided the following standards have been met:
- A student beginning grades nine and below must have been promoted from the previous grade prior to the beginning of the current school year.
- Students beginning their second year of high school must have earned five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements.
- Students beginning their third year of high school either must have earned a total of ten credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or have earned a total of five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.
- Students beginning their fourth year of high school either must have earned a total of 15 credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or have earned a total of five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.
- Exceptions:
  - (a) When a migrant student enrolls for the first time during a school year, all criteria cited above applies. All other students who enroll too late to earn a passing grade for a grading period are ineligible.
  - (b) High school students transferring from out-of-state may be eligible the first six weeks of school if they meet the criteria cited above or school officials are able to determine that they would have been eligible if they had remained in the out-of-state school from which they are transferring.
- Students who are not in compliance with these provisions may request a hardship appeal of their academic eligibility through the UIL state office.

### **Eligibility for All Extracurricular Participants After First Six Weeks of the School Year**

- A student who receives, at the end of any grading period (after the first six weeks of the school year), a grade below 70 in any class (other than an identified class eligible for exemption) or a student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) may not participate in extracurricular activities for three school weeks. An ineligible student may practice or rehearse, however. The student regains

eligibility after the seven calendar day waiting period has ended following a grading period or the three school week evaluation period when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has earned a passing grade (70 or above) in all classes, other than those that are exempted.

- All schools must check grades for all participants at the end of the first six weeks of the school year. From that point, grades are checked at the end of the grading period whether it is six, nine, or twelve weeks in length. Students who pass remain eligible until the end of the next grading period. All activity coaches and directors are responsible for obtaining official grade reports from the individual the principal designates as the keeper of official grades before the student represents the school. This provision applies to all grading periods. It also applies to all three-school week evaluation periods for ineligible students.
- All students are academically eligible during a school holiday of a full calendar week or more. When the bell rings to dismiss students for the December holidays, all students are academically eligible until classes resume in January. The same is true for summer recess and fall and spring breaks provided those breaks consist of at least a full calendar week. (See example at the end of this document.)
- If a grading period or three school week evaluation period ends on the last class day prior to a school holiday of one calendar week or more (e.g. spring break, winter holidays), the seven calendar day grace period to lose eligibility and the seven calendar day waiting period to regain eligibility begin the first day that classes resume.
- Students lose eligibility for a three school week period. For purposes of the law, “three school weeks” is defined as 15 class days. Exception: One, but only one of the three school weeks may consist of only three or four class days, provided school has been dismissed for a scheduled holiday period. Two class days does not constitute a “school week” for purposes of this law except Thanksgiving week if schools are on holiday Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. After the first six weeks of the school year, academically ineligible students in schools with six week grading periods have one opportunity to regain eligibility after the first three school weeks of the grading period.

• Note: When computing eligibility calendars, it is helpful to remember that the seven day grace period after the grading period also contains school week one of the three school week evaluation period. Also, a seven calendar day grace and waiting period is always applicable after grading periods and evaluation periods.

Example: School week ends on Friday - Students who are losing eligibility have a seven calendar day grace period, and students who are regaining eligibility have a seven calendar day waiting period. Eligibility is lost or regained the following Friday at the time the regular school day ends or would end if that day is a holiday.

Section 5 (b) of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* defines calendar week as 12:01 am on Sunday through midnight on Saturday.

- 19 TAC §76.1001 (b) states: The school week is defined as beginning at 12:01 am on the first instructional day of the calendar week and ending at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.

### Semester Grades

Sabinal ISD uses the third six weeks grade of the first semester to determine eligibility since the law requires eligibility to be based on the previous grading period during the school year.

• **Identification of Honors Courses under TAC §74.30**

(a) The following are identified as honors classes as referred to in the Texas Education Code, §33.081(d) (1), concerning extracurricular activities:

(1) All College Board advanced placement courses and International Baccalaureate courses in all disciplines;

(2) English language arts: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)”;

(3) Languages other than English: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One),” and languages other than English courses Levels IV-VII;

(4) Mathematics: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)” and Pre-calculus;

(5) Science: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)”;

(6) Social studies: Social Studies Advanced Studies, Economics Advanced Studies, and high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One).”

(b) Districts may identify additional honors courses in the subject areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or a language other than English for the purpose of this section, but must identify such courses prior to the semester in which any exemptions related to extracurricular activities occur.

(c) Districts are neither required to nor restricted from considering courses as honors for the purpose of grade point average calculation.

The amendment above, adopted by the State Board of Education, modifies the definition of advanced courses and aligns the rule with newly amended Texas Education Code, §33.081, which narrows the number of courses that may be exempt from “No Pass No Play” requirements.

The courses referenced in section (b) above do not have to be submitted to the University Interscholastic League. They may be maintained at the local school district level.

It is important to remember that school districts may voluntarily impose stricter standards than those cited in this document.

## **ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE**

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day’s learning on the previous day’s, and to grow as an individual. Absences from athletics and extra-curricular events may result in serious disruption of a student’s mastery of the instructional skills; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Sabinal ISD sets higher standards/expectations for school attendance of participants in extracurricular activities or programs.

All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provision communicated in the student handbook and/or specific organization's handbooks, constitutions, charters or guidelines. Attendance checks will be conducted every 3-week. Should a participant accrue absences exceeding 1.5 days each 3-week period (full or part days), the participant is subject to a participation penalty in each extra-curricular program they are

currently enrolled. The participation penalty will be enforced by the Teacher/Sponsor/Coach and will be subject to a penalty equivalent of sitting-out 25% of the next available contest or activity. Excessive absences within each 3-week period may result in additional participation penalties. Two state laws—one dealing with the required presence of school-aged children in school, e.g., compulsory attendance, the other with how a child's attendance affects the award of a student's final grade or course credit—are of special interest to students and parents. They are discussed below.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ABSENCES**

The District shall make no distinction between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities approved by the Board. A student shall be allowed a maximum of 15 extracurricular absences not related to post-district competition, a maximum of five absences for post-district competition prior to state, and a maximum of two absences for state competition.

Your conduct in class should be ABOVE THAT OF OTHER STUDENTS. They are looking to you for leadership. You must be a leader in behavior and in supporting your faculty and administration. If you need extra help in a subject, ask your teacher if you can come early, before school, lunch period, or any time the teacher will allow. Most teachers will be more than happy to help you if you show proper respect and display an interested attitude and desire to learn. These things will have a direct bearing on the kind of support we will receive from the faculty and administration. WE NEED THEIR SUPPORT.



### **Sabinal Independent School District Extracurricular Code of Student Conduct**

#### **I. Extracurricular Activities**

The term "extracurricular activities" means, without limitations, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the District. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district or a campus. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, is subject to the provision of this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

## II. Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Sabinal ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total SABINAL ISD student body at all time and places.

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Sabinal ISD is authorized to set higher standards/expectations for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* extends beyond the *Sabinal ISD Student Code of Conduct* not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction from imposing discipline.

This *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular activities.

- Regardless of whether school is in session;
- Regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related activity;
- Regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- Regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season; and
- Regardless of where and when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the *Sabinal ISD Code of Conduct* will incur consequences from the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the *Sabinal ISD Student Code of Conduct*.

## III. Conduct Expectations

The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor:

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active.
- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Sabinal ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability.

- Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.
- Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event should call the coach, sponsor, team captain, or club president as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Missed practices, meetings or workouts will be made-up; however disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more than two times in a semester.
- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meetings or event are required to dress appropriately and sit with the rest of the group.
- Students are required to show respect at all times to coach and sponsors.
- Students should refrain from anything that will draw attention to themselves instead of the team. Male students participating in sports are required to be clean shaven.
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Sabinal ISD Student Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.

#### **IV. Prohibited Conduct**

Sabinal ISD students who participated in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:

- Possessing, smoking, selling, or using tobacco products;
- Possessing or using drug paraphernalia;
- Possessing, selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind;
- Possessing, selling, giving, delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, or any dangerous drug;
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint, or volatile, mood-altering chemicals;
- Engaging in serious misbehavior, as that term is defined in the Sabinal Student Code of Conduct;
- Attending any event at which underage drinking or smoking is occurring (students will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises);
- Riding in a vehicle containing alcohol unless a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult is present and aware of the presence of the alcohol;
- Stealing;
- Conduct that caused injury or harm to persons or property;
- Using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, or obscene gestures;
- Fighting;
- Any conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers;
- Inappropriate touching including "making out" in public places, sexual gestures, or exposing body parts of the body that are ordinarily covered up in public;
- Inappropriate behavior in public places.
- Hazing- any intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off the school property directed against a student, by one person alone, or acting with others, that endanger the mental and physical health or safety of a student for the pledging or being initiated in any organization whose members are to include other students

## **REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE**

The following items must be turned in to the extracurricular department before participating in any practice or game in any extracurricular activity.

- A. Physical Examination for all athletic groups or teams.

A physical examination is required every year for student-athletes at Sabinal I.S.D. The physical will cover all sports for a one-year period.

- B. Athletic Department Forms Packet

This packet includes:

1. UIL Acknowledgement of Rules
2. Personal student and parent information
3. Extracurricular Covenant
4. Steroid Acknowledgement Form
5. Sudden Cardiac Awareness Form
6. Concussion Acknowledgement Form
7. Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form

- C. Acknowledgement of Sabinal I.S.D. Extracurricular Handbook

- D. Student in good Standing

- F. Academic Eligibility

A student in grades 9-12 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.

1. Freshman- must have been promoted from the eighth to the ninth.
2. Sophomore- must have at least 5 credits toward graduation.
3. Junior- must have at least 10 credits toward graduation or during the preceding 12 months, earned 5 credits.
4. Senior- must have at least 15 credits toward graduation or during the preceding 12 months, earned 5 credits.

A student participating in UIL activities will be suspended from participation in games after a grading period in which the student received a grade lower than a 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class (other than an identified honors or advanced class). This suspension will continue for three weeks. The grades will be reviewed at the end of each three-week period; the suspension will be removed if the student is passing all classes with a grade equal to or greater than 70.

## ***DRESS AND GROOMING***

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

To aid students and their parents in making decisions about appropriate dress

and grooming for school, the following guidelines are established by the district and shall be applicable to all school-related functions both on and off the campus:

1. All clothing worn by students must fit appropriately. No excessively tight or baggy clothes may be worn. Pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn appropriately at the waist.
2. No clothing of any kind promoting alcoholic drink, drugs, tobacco products, or containing unacceptable language or connotation may be worn.
3. All students (6-12) will be allowed to wear shorts that are no shorter than three inches above the knee when standing in a normal position. The shorts must appropriately fit the student, not being too tight or too loose/sagging.
4. Pre-K – 5th grade may wear shorts that are no shorter than three inches above the knee, or are fingertip length when standing in a normal position (arm hanging straight down to the side, fingers extended, shoulders in normal position – length no shorter than the longest fingertip).
5. Pre-K – through 4th grade girls need to wear shorts or leggings under their dresses.
6. The midriff must be covered when arms are raised. Low-cut necklines, front or back, will not be permitted.
7. Coats and jackets must be appropriate for school and shall not extend beyond the fingers when the arms are at the student's side. Oversized coats and trench coats are not allowed.
8. Shoes appropriate for school are required. Flip-flops over an inch thick will be allowed. No slaps, slides or shower or light-up shoes. Steel-toed shoes/boots are not allowed. Some classes require specific footwear for safety reasons and such individual classroom rules will be enforced.
9. Colored glasses are not permitted inside the building unless prescribed by a doctor.
10. Headbands, bandanas, hair rollers, neckbands, or armbands will not be permitted.
11. Headgear (caps, hats, etc.) is not permitted inside the building/gym unless prescribed by Doctor.
12. Attire with holes purposely put in them is not permitted.
13. Wallet chains or dog chains are not allowed. These types of chains are also not to be worn as jewelry. Bracelets, necklaces, and belts that have spikes are not allowed.
14. Body piercing on the eyebrow, naval, nose, tongue, chin/upper lip, inner or upper ear, etc. is prohibited.
15. Tattoos and passion marks must be covered at all times; however, UIL rules supersede local rules in sporting events.
16. Coordinated wind suits and non-athletic sweats (not athletic sweats), are allowed to be worn if sized appropriately.

#### Girls Only:

- Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skirts with splits, must be no shorter than three inches above the knee.
- Miniskirts are not acceptable.
- Leggings, spandex or tights worn by themselves are not acceptable (worn under code appropriate dress or shorts will be allowed).
- Capri's flood pants and crop pants may be worn if they extend below the knee.
- Shirts that extend beyond the hip area will be tucked in.
- Sleeveless shirts must be at least 2 ½ inches in width across the shoulder.
- Extreme make-up or extreme unnatural hair color is not permitted.
- Extreme hairstyles, such as a Mohawk/Faux-hawk, fade designs, corn rows, and punk styles is not permitted.
- Haircuts, such as shaved or butched sides is not permitted.

### Boys Only:

- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Shirrtails must be tucked in if they extend past the length of the palm while standing straight up (arms hanging straight down to the side, fingers extended, and shoulders in normal position).
- Sweaters that extend below mid-hip must be tucked in. Shirts and sweaters must be properly sized.
- Boys may not wear makeup or fingernail polish.
- No piercing of the body permitted.
- Mustaches and beards are not permitted. Boys must be clean-shaven.
- Sideburns must not extend below the bottom of the ear and must be straight cut and trimmed.
- Hair shall not extend beyond the following limits:
  - Front: not to touch the eyebrow.
  - Side: to bottom of ear.
  - Back: to top of collar on a button down collar shirt.
  - Extreme hairstyles, such as a Mohawk/Faux-hawk, fade designs, punk styles, and small ponytails located near the base of the neck are not permitted.
  - Cornrows are not allowed.
  - Haircuts, such as shaved or butched sides, and long tops, backs, or sides of two inches or more in length are not permitted.
  - Unnatural or uneven cut hairstyles will not be permitted.
  - Dyed hair will not be permitted.

If your child comes to school wearing clothes that violate the dress code or in any other way violates our dress and grooming standards, she or he will be placed in in-school suspension until she or he is in compliance. We will make efforts to notify you as soon as possible, and if the student changes clothes or otherwise comes into compliance with the dress and grooming standards, she or he will return to regular classes immediately.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student may be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

\*Final determination of acceptable dress and grooming rests with the principal, his/her designee or activity/club sponsor.

### **FEES**

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state and local funds at no charge to a student. A student, however, is expected to provide his or her own pencils, paper, erasers, and notebooks and may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits, including:

Costs for materials for a class project that the student will keep.

Security deposits.

Personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel.

Voluntarily purchased pictures, publications, class rings, yearbooks, graduation announcements, etc.

Voluntarily purchased student accident insurance.

Musical instrument rental.

Personal apparel used in extracurricular activities that becomes the property of the student.

Parking fees and student identification cards, athletic event passes

Fees for lost or damaged athletic supplies and equipment including uniforms, practice attire and shoes.

### **Conduct Before and After School**

Teachers and administrators have full authority over student conduct at before- or afterschool activities on district premises and at school-sponsored events off district premises, such as play rehearsals, club meetings, athletic practices, and special study groups or tutorials. Students are subject to the same rules of conduct that apply during the instructional day and will be subject to consequences established by the ***Student Code of Conduct*** or any stricter standards of behavior established by the sponsor for extracurricular participants.

### **STEROIDS**

State law prohibits students from possessing, dispensing, delivering, or administering an anabolic steroid. Anabolic steroids are for medical use only, and only a physician can prescribe use.

Body building, muscle enhancement, or the increase of muscle bulk or strength through the use of an anabolic steroid or human growth hormone by a healthy student is not a valid medical use and is a criminal offense.

Students participating in UIL athletic competition may be subject to random steroid testing. More information on the UIL testing program may be found on the UIL Web site at

[http://www.uil.utexas.edu/athletics/health/steroid\\_information.html](http://www.uil.utexas.edu/athletics/health/steroid_information.html).

### **School District Authority and Jurisdiction**

School rules and the authority of the district to administer discipline apply whenever the interest of the district is involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school-sponsored activities.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student:

1. During the regular school day and while the student is going to and from school on district transportation;
2. During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus;
3. While the student is in attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
4. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
5. When retaliation against a school employee or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
6. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
7. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
8. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas;
9. When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006 or 37.0081; and
10. When the student is required to register as a sex offender.

The district has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

The district has the right to search a student's locker when there is reasonable suspension to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

## **AWARD POLICIES**

U.I.L. rules prohibit athletes from accepting anything of value other than as listed in these policies. All athletes must strictly adhere to all training, attendance, conduct, discipline and appearance rules set forth by the coach/sponsors for the entire school year before being considered for an extracurricular award. All scholastic eligibility rules established by the School Board, the University Interscholastic League, and T.E.A. must be met. It must be clearly understood that the coach/sponsor recommends an athlete for an award. At Sabinal I.S.D. athletes must complete the required minimum amount of playing time at the varsity level in order to receive a letter jacket. Regardless of playing time or level of play, as a junior, all students receive their award jacket at the same time (the beginning of their junior year). School may give one major award jacket, not to exceed \$60.00 in value, to a student during high school enrollment at the same school for participation in one of the U.I.L. interschool competitions.

### **BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, SOFTBALL, AND VOLLEYBALL**

TO LETTER: Students must play in 50% or more of all the games on the varsity level in order to letter.

### **CROSS-COUNTRY**

TO LETTER: A student must compete in at least 50% of varsity competitions for the season and finish the season on the varsity squad.

### **POWERLIFTING**

TO LETTER: A student can letter in any of the following three ways:

1. Placing 1st (within his or her weight class) at any invitational meet.
2. Qualifying for the Regional Meet or State Meet (being within the top 10 lifters in his or her weight class or the top 2 in the region and qualifying for the state meet).
3. Completing the season in the power-lifting program for two consecutive years.

### **TRACK**

TO LETTER: A student must compete in 75% of all track meets and satisfy one of the following:

1. Score ten points during the course of the year.
2. Score at the District Track Meet.
3. Complete the season on the varsity team for two years.

### **TENNIS AND GOLF**

TO LETTER: A student can letter in any of three ways:

1. Place in the top three in your division at the district level of competition (not through default).
2. Completion of the season for two years.
3. Participation at the Regional or State Meet (not through default).

### **UIL LITERARY/ACADEMIC CONTESTS AND \*ONE-ACT PLAY**

TO LETTER: A student can earn a letter in any one of four ways:

1. \*Be named honorable mention all star cast, all-star cast, or best actor/actress at the district level of competition.
2. Score at the district literary meet.
3. Completion of the activity for two years.
4. Participation at the Regional or State Meet (not through default).

### **GUIDELINES FOR CHEERLEADER:**

A student may letter in May after the student has completed his/her first year of participation in good standing.

### **FFA**

Placing in the top three at a state level contest or placing in the top three at the Area Leadership or qualifying for state (CDE).

### **Band**

Points for letter jackets:

- In order to receive a letter jacket, a student will need to earn 75 points.
- Each year of High School Band will be 25 points.
- Junior High All-Region contest (8<sup>th</sup> grade only, because that's when they're in high school band) will count as 10 points.
- High School All-Region contest will count as 15 points.
- High School Solo & Ensemble will count as 15 points.

Coach/sponsors have the discretion of lettering players who they consider to have made a significant contribution to the total team's effort, or particular victory, though these players have not participated in the required quarters, matches, meets and the like. Coach/sponsors may also, if they choose, letter athletes who are juniors or seniors and who have played two or more years without lettering. These players, though lacking the overall ability, have displayed dependability and perseverance, which is commendable. Their efforts have contributed to the total extracurricular program's effectiveness.

Athletes automatically forfeit all awards if they fail to complete the team's season.

### **Travel**

All athletes represent the community, school, and coaches. Therefore, it is expected that all will dress in an acceptable manner on trips and conduct themselves in a proper manner. The dress code will be above and beyond the school dress code whenever feasible. When missing classes because of an athletic event or performance, it is the responsibility of the athlete to see his/her teacher the day before the missed classes to fill out the extra-curricular absence assignment sheet. All work shall be made up at the time requested by the teacher. All students making a school sponsored trip shall be required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Students may return home with the parent or guardian when the parent or guardian presents a written request to the coach. On school trips, students will be released only to their parent or guardian. If an athlete is injured in a contest away from home, the above policy may be altered to meet the circumstances.

### **Quitting**

Anyone quitting a sport or club after a trial period (usually after the first contest) will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the season of the sport quit is completed or unless the head coaches or sponsors of both sports agree that the student would be better off in the other sport. An athlete is also subject to not participating in the first 25% of the next scheduled season of the next respective sport if they have previously quit an activity without reason. (Example....Joe quits football after the 3<sup>rd</sup> game because he doesn't like it anymore...he will then sit out the first 5 games of a 20 game basketball season should he decide to play basketball). The Athletic Director may, at his discretion, make an exception to this rule when an event outside the control of the athlete or his/her family causes the athlete to drop a sport. A clear understanding is to be reached by the Athletic Director, Principal, the athlete, and the athlete's parents at the time the sport or club is dropped.

## **ISS**

Any day in which a student is assigned to ISS or Suspended, they will not be allowed to attend practices for that respective sport.

If the student is in ISS on the day of his or her competition, they will not be allowed to participate in the day's competition.

## **Hazing**

"Hazing" is against the law and will not be tolerated at Sabinal ISD. "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off school property directed against a student, by one person alone, or acting with others, that endangers the mental and physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are to include other students. Under Education Code 37.152 a person commits an offense if the person commits any of the following.

- a. Engages in hazing.
- b. Solicits, encourages, directs, and aids, attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing.
- c. Recklessly permits hazing to occur.
- d. Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student, or first-hand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge in writing to the Principal or Athletic Director.

## **Conflict in Activities**

An individual who attempts to participate in several extracurricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a conflicting position. The Sabinal ISD recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities, and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about participation in too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means immediately notifying the faculty sponsors and coaches involved when a conflict does arise.

When a conflict arises, the sponsors and coaches will work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, the Athletic Director will make the decision based on the following.

1. The relative importance of each event.
2. The importance of each event to the student.
3. The relative contribution the student can make.
4. Talk with parents.

Once a decision has been made and the student has followed the decisions, he/she will not be penalized in any way by either faculty sponsor or coach. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that activity in a timely fashion so as not to place an unreasonable burden on the team, coach, or sponsor.

## **STUDENT ELECTIONS**

1. Must be in good standing with the group or organization.
2. Must be academically eligible at time of nomination.

3. Must be enrolled in school for the year elected.
4. All candidates must be nominated by someone or by self-nomination.
5. Most votes will be highest office.
6. Groups and organizations have the right and responsibilities to put restrictions on certain office requirement.

### **INSURANCE**

Sabinal I.S.D. strives to provide each and every student athlete with the best care possible under the guidance of an experienced coach/sponsor. Each year we hope to avoid injuries, but unfortunately that is something that cannot be controlled. The reality is that all medical expenses resulting from an extracurricular injury are inherently the parent's responsibility; therefore, Sabinal I.S.D. has elected to purchase an excess insurance policy for all UIL sanctioned participants.

**Listed below are two scenarios that a parent and/or guardian may find themselves in when their child is hurt during an extracurricular event and must follow in order to qualify for our "excess" coverage.**

- I. If the parent and/or guardian carry primary insurance on the student, the following steps should be followed.
  1. All injuries must be reported and documented by the Head Coach/sponsor or one of the assistants.
  2. Injury must have resulted during a sanctioned practice or competition under the supervision of a coach/sponsor.
  3. All visits to the doctor or other providers must be approved by the Head Coach/sponsor or Extracurricular Director.
  4. Parents and/or guardians must fill out a claim form within 90 days of injury.
  5. Parents and/or guardians must show proof of insurance when claim form is filled out.
  6. Parents and/or guardians will submit itemized bills in timely fashion from all doctors, hospitals or other providers that rendered services to the student athlete.
  7. Insurance company will pay for services that the primary insurance has not covered. Please be aware that the "excess" coverage may not totally pay all the remaining balance.
  8. Parents and/or guardians are asked to submit a copy of all correspondence from the "excess" insurance company to the Head Coach/sponsor or Extracurricular Director in a timely fashion.
  
- II. If the parent and/or guardian do not carry primary insurance on the student, the following steps should be followed.
  1. All injuries must be reported and documented by the Head Coach/sponsor or one of the assistants.
  2. Injury must have resulted during a sanctioned practice or competition under the supervision of a coach/sponsor.
  3. All visits to the doctor or other providers must be approved by the Head Coach/sponsor or Extracurricular Director.
  4. Parents and/or guardian must fill out a claim form within 90 days of injury.
  5. Parents and/or guardian will submit itemized bills in a timely fashion from all doctors, hospitals or other providers that rendered services to the student athlete.

6. Insurance company will become primary and pay on reasonable and customary charges on any extracurricular related injury. Please be aware that balances remaining after the insurance has paid is the parent and/or guardians responsibility.
7. Parents and/or guardian are asked to submit a copy of all correspondence from the "excess" insurance company to the Head Coach/sponsor or Extracurricular Director.

**SABINAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**EXTRACURRICULAR COVENANT**

The Sabinal Independent School District provides an extracurricular program for the benefit of the students in this school district. We believe that participation in a competitive extracurricular program can provide students an opportunity to learn responsibility, dedication, leadership, hard work, respect for authority, and many other qualities. The rules are established to promote these qualities, and to help build and maintain a strong extracurricular program. A respected and competitive extracurricular program provides the best opportunity for our students. It is recognized that some of the expectations for athletes exceed the expectations for the general student body. Athletes are expected to follow the established rules. Violations of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. The facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining what actions will be taken. Students may be dismissed from the extracurricular program for violation of the rules.

1. If you are arrested or charged for possession of or under the influence of an illegal drug.

The consequences for the above action (#1) will be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense - Suspension from the Extracurricular Program for 1 calendar year.  
(This is a "No Tolerance" policy)

2. Use of alcohol will not be condoned. This includes, but is not limited to, being issued a citation for Minor in Possession, Driving While Intoxicated, Under the Influence, etc.
3. Any use of tobacco products in the public or school environment.
4. If you are arrested or charged with any criminal activity that brings disgrace or dishonor to the Sabinal Extracurricular Program.

The consequences for the above actions (#2, 3 & 4) will be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 2-week suspension from all extracurricular activities  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 6- week suspension from all extracurricular activities.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Expulsion from all extracurricular activities.

5. Any emotional outburst towards a teacher, administrator, coach/sponsor or fellow player. Any activity, which is considered disrespectful on the field or in the school environment.

The consequences for the above actions (#5) will be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 1-week suspension from all extracurricular activities.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 2-week suspension from all extracurricular activities.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Expulsion from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

**I have read and agree to the above contract.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Extracurricular Director Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent's Phone Number**