

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

5135.1

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Clark County School District sponsors a varied activities program for all students enrolled in the secondary schools. Student participation in one of these programs is governed by rules and regulations established by the District and the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA). These guidelines have been developed to provide for:

- Specific academic qualifications for students before they are allowed to participate in athletics.
- The uniform organization and management of each sponsored activity.
- The safety and welfare of each student participant.
- The protection of individual student rights.
- The instruction in the essential skills and attitudes needed for participation.

The procedures and regulations for the establishment and maintenance of scholastic athletic eligibility for all Clark County School District secondary students are specified in the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association Handbook.

I. Additional Eligibility Requirements for All Students Impacted by This Regulation

A. Substance Abuse

Participation in NIAA sanctioned sports is a privilege and responsibility which requires all participants to adhere to athletic training rules imposed by the school district and member or affiliate school the student attends and represents. Adherence to training rules ensures that all student athletes are in top physical condition, minimizes potential for injury, and further ensures that all member and affiliate school athletic teams are appropriately represented by their student athletes. Therefore, the possession or use of any controlled substance, alcohol or tobacco products by a student athlete, whether it occurs on or off of school property, is prohibited and shall result in the penalties set forth herein.

This regulation shall take effect once the student begins participation as a student athlete in high school athletics. This regulation remains in effect for every calendar school year during the course of his/her high school career

and when he/she is directly involved in a school activity occurring at any time (summer leagues/camps, etc.). This regulation remains in effect regardless of whether the student is currently participating on a high school athletic team.

1. Definitions – The following terms or phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them for purposes of interpreting this regulation.
 - a. Competitive Week – A seven (7)-day period of time beginning with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs in which a student athlete is participating as a member of an athletic team for a member or affiliate school, and in which that team is officially competing in NIAA sanctioned competition.
 - b. Controlled Substance – Any mind altering substance or beverage set forth in Schedule I-V of the list of Controlled Substances as identified by the office of the Drug Enforcement Administration or as set forth in 21 U.S.C. §812.
 - c. Period of Suspension – A student athlete is prohibited from appearing in any NIAA sanctioned sport or event as a member of an athletic team or in individual competition. A suspension from athletic competition begins with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. A student athlete who is suspended under this regulation who does not serve the entire period of suspension during the sport season in which suspension occurs shall serve any remaining period of suspension during the next sport season in which the student athlete appears on a NIAA roster. A violation of this regulation that occurs during a time when a student athlete does not appear on a NIAA roster shall be implemented at the commencement of the next sport season in which the student athlete participates. Attendance in a summer school class shall not apply toward satisfying any period of suspension.
2. Possession or Use of Tobacco/Alcohol/Controlled Substance/Narcotics – Any student athlete determined to be in possession of, or to have used tobacco, including smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, an alcoholic beverage (as defined by NRS 202.020 and any relevant local ordinances), controlled substance and/or narcotic (unless prescribed by the student athlete's physician for medical purposes), is in violation of this regulation. If after an

investigation by the school it is determined that the student athlete is in violation of this regulation, the student athlete shall immediately be declared ineligible to compete in any NIAA competition beginning with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. Additionally, the student athlete shall be subject to the following discipline:

- a. **First Violation:** A six (6)-competitive-week suspension from participation in interscholastic competition beginning with the first scheduled competition after the suspension occurs. Four (4) competitive weeks of the suspension of eligibility may be waived if the student successfully completes all components of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in subparagraphs (4) (a) (1) and (4) (a) (2) below. The student may practice with the team during the period of suspension if approved by the coach and principal.
- b. **Second Violation:** The student shall be suspended from interscholastic competition for a minimum of ninety (90) school days which shall include a minimum of six (6) competitive weeks of competition. The student shall not be allowed to practice with the team, or participate in any out of season activities and must complete the requirements set forth in subparagraphs (2) (b) (1) and (2) (b) (2) below, in order to be considered for reinstatement of future athletic eligibility, which shall be determined following the ninety (90)-day suspension of athletic eligibility by a group composed of one of the student's parents/legal guardians, the school principal, athletic director, coach and a substance abuse program coordinator.
 - 1) A substance abuse evaluation assessment conducted by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor at the expense of the parent/legal guardian of the student must be completed within ten (10) school days following the suspension and all assessment recommendations must be satisfactorily met before athletic eligibility may be reinstated.
 - 2) The student must successfully participate in all sessions of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in subparagraphs (4) (a) (1) and (4) (a) (2) below, and successfully complete a minimum of ten (10) tobacco or alcohol/drug related support sessions.

- c. Third Violation: The student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's high school career.
 - d. Appeal: A student who serves his/her third violation and still has more than one year of eligibility remaining may appeal through the NIAA Board of Control. Both the student(s) and his/her parents must attend this meeting of the Board to present their appeal.
3. Cumulative Effect of Suspensions: Multiple suspensions of a student athlete's athletic eligibility based on violations of this regulation shall be considered as cumulative over the length of each student athlete's high school career, 9th through 12th grade.
4. Substance Abuse Intervention Program: Any student who has been suspended from athletic eligibility for violation of the provisions of this regulation and whose future athletic eligibility is contingent on successful completion of a substance abuse intervention program, or whose suspension of athletic eligibility may be reduced through successful participation in a substance abuse intervention program, shall complete the substance abuse intervention program developed by the NIAA in conjunction with the State of Nevada, Department of Human Resources Division of Child and Family Services Program available through the Juvenile Justice Programs Office, or shall complete an approved school district program.
- a. Successful completion of the substance abuse intervention program shall require, at a minimum:
 - 1) The completion of a video program specific to the nature of the student athlete's offense, by the student athlete and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), as demonstrated by the successful completion of an assignment on the content of the video by the student athlete and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
 - 2) The completion of a minimum of an eight (8)-hour assignment selected from a list of ten (10) possible assignments by school personnel. Successful completion shall be determined through a meeting between the student athlete, his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the head coach of the sport in which the student athlete was participating at the

time of offense, and the school counselor or dean of students.

All investigations and penalty enforcements will be conducted by the school and/or district with support through the NIAA office.

B. Poor Attendance

1. Absence – Any student absent from class on the day of an activity will not be permitted participation that day or evening unless an excuse has been granted, in advance, by the principal.
2. Truancy – Any student who is declared truant will be ineligible for a period of one (1) week after the infraction is discovered.

C. Good Citizenship

1. School Discipline Referral – Any student referred to the office for school rule violations may be denied the privilege of participation in all extracurricular activities for a period to be determined by the school principal. This eligibility suspension will not exceed one (1) school year.
2. School Law Enforcement Referral – Any student referred to law enforcement authorities by school officials for school rule violations may be denied the privilege of participation in all extracurricular activities for a period determined by the principal. This eligibility suspension will not exceed one (1) school year.
3. Arrest – Any student who is arrested for a felony or gross misdemeanor in the past six months may be denied the privilege of participation in all extracurricular activities for a period determined by the principal. This eligibility suspension will not exceed one (1) school year.

D. Summer School Grades

Summer school grades may be used to establish athletic eligibility according to Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association regulations.

II. Student Activities During Semester Examination Week

- A. All District extracurricular and athletic activities will be temporarily suspended during the week of semester examinations.
- B. A schedule of such activities may resume after school has been

dismissed on Friday of examination week.

- C. Regular interscholastic athletic team practices may continue to take place during semester examination week.

III. Starting Times for Athletic Contests

- A. The Clark County School District Athletics Department will monitor high school athletic schedules to ensure evening varsity contests.
- B. It is recommended that all athletic contests scheduled during regular school weekdays should provide starting times that allow the student athlete to both participate and be at home at a reasonable hour.
- C. Individual schools will have the prerogative to adjust varsity athletic contests for special events, such as homecoming, field dedication, community leader recognition, etc. Only one special event may be scheduled during each sports season.
- D. The Clark County School District may reschedule an athletic contest for reasons of safety or other serious concerns. This decision will be determined by the director of Student Athletics in conjunction with the principals of the affected schools and the region superintendent.

Legal Reference:	NIAA Handbook
Review Responsibility:	Instruction Unit
Adopted:	[5135:7/13/67]
Revised:	(6/14/79; 8/14/80; 9/24/81; 7/14/83 - effective 1/20/84; 10/25/84; 2/14/85; 7/24/86; 4/21/87; 1/28/88; 3/12/91; 4/14/92; 8/10/93; 10/26/93; 6/14/94; 7/26/94; 7/11/95; 6/4/98; 3/23/00)
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