



Vernon Secondary School

“Pride on the Hill”

Panther Athletics

Philosophy

- All teams strive to compete at the highest level possible
- Encourage full participation and dedication from our student athletes
- Encourage full commitment from parents, administration, and teachers in the Athletic Program
- Promote the idea that having fun in athletics comes from hard work and commitment which in turn will lead to success

Code of Conduct for Athletes:

- All rules of conduct which are in effect at Vernon Secondary School are also applicable to all team members at all times that they are involved in a school sponsored activity. Please be aware that athletes will not be under direct supervision at all times. As secondary school students, it is expected that they can handle some freedoms when traveling to different schools/communities.
- Any athlete observed by the coaching staff or staff sponsor to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while involved in a school sponsored event can:
 - Be sent home immediately at the athlete's expense and parents notified
 - Reported to the administration with possible suspension from school
 - Suspended from athletic competition
- Any athlete receiving a drug or alcohol suspension **could** be suspended from competing for the remainder of the season. Athletes may be eligible to play in the following season if it is their first offense and the following conditions have been met:
 - Meeting with the coach(s) and AD
 - AD/Administration approval to participate

Note: A player may be ineligible to travel overnight with teams for the remainder of the school year
- On all school-sponsored functions, athletes should consider that they are representatives of the school. Complaints regarding behavior may result in the athlete being sent home, and being suspended from the team.
- Athletes will endeavor to uphold the spirit of sportsmanship towards officials, opponents, spectators and fellow team members.
- Players are expected to follow all reasonable directions from the coach or school sponsor. Failure to do so can result in a suspension from the team.
- Athletes are **expected to attend all practices, games and meetings** unless excused by the coaches.
- An athlete participating in a school sport may not let another school sport/club interfere with their commitment to the in-season sport, unless it is agreed upon by the coach.
- Once selected to a team, an athlete is expected to maintain a level of academic achievement, effort, and behavior consistent with the expectations of the school and the ability of the athlete. The AD/Admin/Coaches can suspend athletes from participating in practices or games for non-application in their classes.

- It is the athlete's responsibility to let subject teachers know, in advance, of absences from class.
- Athletes who are issued a VSS uniform at the beginning of the season are required to maintain it, keep it in good condition and return it at the end of the season, clean and in good condition. Uniforms that have been damaged, destroyed, or lost are the responsibility of the student who is issued the uniform. Athletes will be charged replacement cost for all uniforms/equipment that are lost or damaged.
- Once the season has started, if a student decides to quit a team before the season is over, they should be aware that they may not be allowed to take part in any other VSS team for the remainder of the school year. If a student quits, and would like to be reinstated, approval from the AD is required.
- An athlete may be suspended from the team if they do not conform to the Athletic policies.
- Team related decisions (cutting players, playing time etc..) are made by the coach. If a parent/athlete has any concerns regarding a decision made by the coach, **please speak to the coach directly and in private.**
- Athlete PLAYING UP. While there are circumstances where athletes could be moved up to a higher level team, they are encouraged to participate in their regular level of play. Under new BC School Sports rules, athletes can play an unlimited amount of regular season games or tournaments on higher level teams and still be eligible to play with their lower level team. If an athlete would like to play at a higher level, please speak with your current coach or AD. After hearing from the athlete, the AD will determine a course of action.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____