

## **Chemical Health Policy for Student-Athletes**

### **PREAMBLE**

**The Chemical Health Policies for Student Body and for Student Athletes recognizes that participation in extra-curricular, and non-curricular school sponsored events and student athletics, is not a right, and students must adhere to these policies as a condition of their eligibility to participate. These policies are independent of and supplemental to drug/alcohol policies applying to the educational program.**

It is the policy of the Swampscott Public School System to enforce the **MIAA** policy regarding the use of substances that are deemed harmful to the student-athlete. It is also the policy of the Swampscott Public School System to reserve the right to impose more stringent penalties in an effort to ensure the health and welfare of the student-athlete.

### **REQUIRED CHEMICAL HEALTH CONTRACT AND MANDATORY MEETING PROVISION**

At the beginning of the school year, and/or orientation of new students, and/or the beginning of the sport season, all student-athletes will review with their coaches, and/or Athletic Director, and/or Principal, Swampscott High School's Chemical Health Policy.

**A student who has not attended an orientation or preseason meeting and signed a contract attesting to their knowledge of this policy will not be permitted to participate in any athletic contest until it is signed and in possession of the athletic director or coach. A parent or guardian must also sign the contract before it is considered complete. All contracts will be kept in the Athletic Office and must be renewed annually.**

**NOTE: Administration reserves the right to require parents to attend a mandatory meeting before the student is allowed to participate in athletics or extra-curricular activities.**

### **SWAMPSCOTT HIGH SCHOOL**

#### **Chemical Health Policy for Student Athletes**

A student shall not, regardless of the quantity, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol, including products such as "NA or near beer"; any tobacco product, marijuana, steroids, any other controlled substance, or any substance hereafter called chemicals that alter perception

or behavior reducing that individual's ability to function appropriately at any time. Controlled substances and steroids prescribed for the student-athlete for a specific documented condition will be permitted with a note from a medical practitioner and will be reviewed as requested with documentation provided to the school by the student-athlete. The high school Chemical Health Policy is in effect 365 days a year beginning with the first day of summer after the conclusion of eighth-grade and ending upon a student's graduation from high school.

NOTE: It is imperative to note that a violation constitutes any one of the substances in this policy. For

example, the first violation may be a tobacco product and the second may be alcohol. All of the substances carry the same penalty.

If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury or

academics, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.

Any current captain found in violation of the Chemical Health Policy shall immediately lose their captaincy. Further, any student found to be in violation of the Chemical Health Policy will be ineligible

to be a captain for the next three consecutive sports seasons; seasons will be counted towards fulfilling

this requirement regardless of whether the student actually participates in a sport. If a student is caught

in season, he/she will be ineligible to be a captain during the current and next two consecutive sport

seasons.

If found in violation of the chemical health policy, students will not receive a refund of the athletic user

fee.

### **First Violation**

When administration determines, using reasonable judgment and following an opportunity for the student

to be heard, that a violation has occurred, the student will be ineligible to participate in all MIAA athletic

extra-curricular activities for a minimum of 25 % of the interscholastic contests in that sport. All decimal

parts of an event will be truncated: all fractional parts of an event will be dropped when calculating the

25% of the season. Additionally, it will be mandatory for the student to participate in and complete a

drug/alcohol counseling program with a member of the SHS guidance department, nursing staff or the

school adjustment counselor or participate in another program approved by administration.

During their

period of ineligibility, students may be allowed to remain at practices when an administrator deems

appropriate for the purpose of rehabilitation. In order for the student to be eligible to participate in contests again, they must have completed the minimum exclusion period and have completed the drug/alcohol counseling program. The counseling program will be considered complete when the counselor informs the athletic director in writing that the student is ready to return.

## **Second Violation and Subsequent Violations**

When administration determines, using reasonable judgment and following an opportunity for the student

to be heard, that a second violation has occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive

interscholastic contests totaling a minimum of 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. All decimal parts of an event will be truncated: all fractional parts of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season. Additionally, it will be mandatory for the student to participate in and

complete a drug/alcohol counseling program with a member of the SHS guidance department, nursing

staff or the school adjustment counselor or participate in another program approved by administration.

During their period of ineligibility, students may be allowed to remain at practices when an administrator

deems appropriate for the purpose of rehabilitation. In order for the student to be eligible to participate in

contests again, they must have completed the minimum exclusion period and have completed the drug/alcohol counseling program. The counseling program will be considered complete when the counselor informs the athletic director in writing that the student is ready to return.

*If after the second or subsequent violations the student, of his/her own volition, becomes a participant in*

*an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for*

*reinstatement in **MIAA** activities after a minimum of 40% of events. The director or a counselor of a*

*chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. All decimal part of an event will be*

*truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.*

*Penalties shall be cumulative. If the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the*

*penalty shall carry over to the student's next season of actual participation, which may affect the*

*eligibility status of the student during the next academic year.*

**Note: the bystander rules from the chemical health policy for the student body also apply to athletes.**

Accepted by School Committee: 10/27/10