



UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

MR. ROBERT KURZWEG III, CMAA
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

While an essential and integral part of the total school program, the athletic program is a privilege for Upper Perkiomen students. Through voluntary participation, the student gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. He/she also accepts the training rules, regulations, and responsibilities unique to an athletic program. To contribute to the welfare of the group, the student must willingly assume these obligations. The role demands that the individual participant make sacrifices that are not required of others.

As representatives of the Upper Perkiomen School District and its programs, participants are expected to exhibit exemplary behavior in and out of school. Therefore, it is understood that all responsibilities listed in, but not limited to, the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct will always apply and that suspension and/or dismissal from athletics may result from failure to comply with these responsibilities. Any or all violations will be considered when reviewing a student's participation in our athletic program.

1. A student found to be selling, providing, in possession of, consuming, or using any quantity of alcohol, narcotics, inhalants, whether on or off school property, violates this code. Upon further review of the infraction, the violations could result in the following infractions. Violation will result in a temporary suspension from the current athletic team, dismissal from the current athletic team with loss of all awards earned during the current season, or removal from all further athletic programs for up to one year.
2. Per Act 110 of 2020, a student-athlete who is convicted or adjudicated of committing a sexual assault will be removed from all athletic participation. The student-athlete will be expelled from the school district, transferred to an alternative education program, or reassigned to another school district or education program. For purposes of this athletic code, sexual assault is defined as a sexual offense under state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or non-forcible sex offense under the Uniform Crime Reporting System of the FBI.
3. A display of unsportsmanlike conduct, such as verbal abuse, taunting toward an opponent, official, coach, guest, or district personnel, or use of profanity during a practice, contest, or activity, may result in a temporary suspension from the current athletic team, dismissal from the current athletic team activity with loss of all awards earned during the current season, or removal from all further athletic programs for up to one year.

4. Violations of the Upper Perkiomen student handbook, which requires administrative action, may be carried over to the athletic program. Any student who receives in-school or out-of-school suspension will not be permitted to participate in any practice or game on the day(s) of the suspension.
5. The rules and regulations in this code shall apply to any violation, on or off school premises, during the period of participation in any sport.
6. Before any suspension or dismissal provided for under these rules takes effect, the coach, advisor, or administrator shall verbally advise the student of the alleged violation. The student will have the opportunity to explain or justify his/her actions.
7. All in-season student-athletes must be in school by **11:00 AM** to participate in an athletic practice or contest held on that day. The athletic director or school principal must approve any exception. Examples of exceptions would include college visitations, doctor's appointments (with doctor's note), funerals, etc.
8. An athlete may not quit one sport and participate in another after the season has begun without the mutual consent of both coaches. An athlete may not quit one sport and begin organized pre-season preparation for the next season's sport without the mutual consent of both coaches.
9. As a member of the UPSD athletic program, the coach of each team may establish appropriate and reasonable standards. All coaches will communicate those expectations to the team participants. Failure to comply with these standards may disqualify a student from participation until the standards are met.
10. Each student is responsible for the school-issued equipment and uniforms. The student-athlete's responsible for properly securing equipment in the appropriate area. Each student-athlete is responsible for reporting lost, damaged, or unsafe equipment to the head coach. Any student-athlete who has not returned all school-issued equipment and uniforms will not be eligible to participate in another sport until the equipment is returned and/or the debt is paid.
11. Student-athletes failing two (2) or more subjects in any one week will be deemed ineligible for the following week, which starts on Sunday and runs through the following Saturday. The academic period is from 8:00 AM on Mondays through 10:00 AM on Fridays. (In the event of a shortened week, eligibility will always be run on the last day of the week.) Student-athletes failing two (2) or more subjects for a marking period will be ineligible to participate in practice/contests for 15 school days. Ineligibility will begin the day report cards are posted in Skyward. Athletes who are academically ineligible three times during a season will be removed from the athletic team to concentrate on their academics.

12. All student-athletes must meet all Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) requirements and abide by all governing rules of the PIAA and the Upper Perkiomen School District, including, but not limited to, age regulations, amateur status, physical examination, and academic requirements. Students who don't meet or violate the requirements of the PIAA and/or the Upper Perkiomen School District shall be deemed ineligible for participation and may receive additional disciplinary action. More information on PIAA guidelines can be found on the school district's website.
13. The coach of each sport may establish additional rules and regulations, which must be approved by the athletic director and/or principal prior to their implementation. Any additional rules and regulations should be in writing and distributed to all students participating in the affected programs.

