

## McLean County Unit District No. 5 Athletic Code – Revised April 2005

The McLean County Unit District No. 5 Board of Education believes that athletics are an extension of the educational process for its student-athletes. In order to enjoy the privilege of participating in athletics at the Unit 5 schools, each student-athlete and parent/guardian should read and understand the following stipulations. The parent/guardian and student-athlete signatures on the student-athlete's Athletic Record must be present before participation will be allowed in any practice, game or other activity.

1. The student-athlete must be doing passing work in at least five (5) subjects (25 class hours).
2. The student-athlete must have a valid physical examination on file in the school office before the beginning of practice. This exam must be current, i.e. dated less than one year from the end of the season in which the student-athlete is to participate.
3. The student athlete must have purchased the student accident insurance or have on file in the Athletic Director's office a form which verifies adequate coverage by a family or group policy. It is understood that McLean County Unit District No. 5 does not assume financial responsibility for accidents incurred in athletics. It should also be clarified that complete coverage by any single policy is highly improbable; therefore the policy covering any student-athlete should be fully understood prior to participation. There is a special insurance rider, in addition to student-accident insurance, available to cover football players (purchase optional).
4. Student-athletes must comply with standard training rules:  
Possession and/or use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, controlled substances and/or related paraphernalia at any time, or aiding and/or abetting others to possess or use, after the very first practice as a Unit 5 student-athlete will be considered as a reason for dismissal from an athletic team. Dismissal will be defined as not practicing with the team or participating in competition. Attendance at any activity involving the illegal use of alcohol, controlled substances or tobacco may result in an investigation leading to an athletic code violation. The following conditions will apply in any situation in which a violation occurs.
  - ◆ *First Violation:* A conference will be held including the student-athlete, the parents/guardians, any coaches involved, the Athletic Director, and the Assistant Principal. The student-athlete will be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the current season and, in order to regain eligibility, complete a probationary period equal to one-fourth (1/4) of the contests in the next sport season of participation by the student-athlete.
  - ◆ *Second-Violation:* A conference will be held including those same parties who met as a result of the first violation. The student-athlete will be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the current season. Should the student-athlete choose to continue participation in the Unit Five athletic program, and thus regain eligibility, a probationary period of one-half (1/2) of the contests in the next sport season of participation must be completed. (Note: After a first or second violation, the student-athlete must complete the probationary period and the remainder of the season in good standing, regardless of whether or not the student earns an award.)
  - ◆ *Third Violation:* The student-athlete is removed from all Unit Five athletic programs for the duration of the student's high school career. A conference will be scheduled by the Athletic Director to ensure a review process for the student and parents/guardians.
5. Unauthorized possession or use of medication or over-the-counter chemical substances by a student-athlete, including but not limited to giving other students medication or over-the-counter chemical substances not prescribed for them, or taking improper dosages of medication or over-the-counter chemical substances, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. In season: suspension from the team for the equivalent of one-fourth (1/4) of the entire season. Out-of-season: A probationary period equal to one-fourth (1/4) of the contests in the next sport season of participation by the student-athlete.  
  
*Coaches may establish additional rules for their respective sports, including rules for conduct. These rules will be communicated verbally and in writing to the student-athletes and will be on file in the Athletic Director's office.*
6. The student-athlete agrees to care for and be responsible for school equipment issued and used. Necessary restitution must be made whenever loss or damage is the student-athlete's responsibility.
7. The student-athlete agrees to comply with all rules and regulations established by the Illinois High School Association and the Student-Parent Handbooks of the McLean County Unit District No. 5 schools.
8. A season begins with the first day of practice and extends through the final competition for members of that team.
9. To be eligible for an award, a student-athlete must complete the season in good standing.
10. All rules established by this Athletic Permit will be considered to be in effect continually, year around, until the student-athlete completes eligibility or graduates, which ever is later.