

Brackett ISD Athletic Code

January 2014

Preamble: Brackett Tiger & Tigerette Pride

The Brackett ISD Athletic Program has a tradition of excellence and pride. All participants in Brackett ISD athletics will strive to maintain this outstanding tradition and contribute to the success of the athletic program.

The Brackett Independent School District provides an athletic program for the benefit of our students. We believe participation in a competitive athletic program can provide students an opportunity for growth outside the classroom. Students are encouraged to participate in any sport in which they have an interest and for which they are eligible.

The code of conduct for athletes is stricter than that of the student code of conduct. Athletes are expected to accept and follow the established rules. Violation of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action, with the possibility of dismissal from the athletic program.

No student is required to take part in athletics, nor is it required for graduation. It is stressed that this is a privilege, and the coaches and administrators have the authority to revoke this privilege when requirements are not met by the student athlete.

I. Statement of Intent

The following guidelines were prepared by Brackett ISD. Each student and his/her parent/guardian, who participates in the Brackett ISD athletic program, will be required to sign a statement acknowledging his/her awareness of these guidelines before the student can participate in school sponsored events. Coaches will be bound by the following guidelines.

1. The coach must inform all athletes in his/her sport of these code of conduct rules.
2. The coach must exhibit consistency in applying punishment.
3. This code will serve as an overall guide for each athlete participating in the Brackett ISD athletic program. Each coach may choose to implement additional rules and guidelines for their specific sport.

II. In and out of season guidelines

- A. Athletes are representative of the Brackett ISD. An athlete is expected to conduct himself/herself with dignity at all times. Any violations of this policy could result in disciplinary running, missing of game(s), forfeiture or exclusion from receiving athletic awards, or removal from the Brackett ISD Athletic Program.
- B. Athletes must meet the minimum grade requirements of the UIL and TEA in order to compete in Brackett ISD athletic programs.
- C. An athlete placed in "out-of-school" or "in-school" suspension may be subject to further disciplinary action by the coach of his/her sport and/or the Athletic Director. A report of misconduct in the classroom may be handled in the same manner.

In School Disciplinary Actions

1. **Classroom Misconduct / Negative Teacher Report** – Physical discipline administered by the in season coach. This discipline will be determined by each individual coach, but will be set at a minimum of 15. This may include but not limited to – Gassers, Lines, Polls, etc.
2. **Suspension / ISS** – Physical discipline administered by the in season coach.

1st Offense – An amount of physical discipline not to exceed 50 sets of chosen disciplinary action.

2nd Offense – An amount of physical discipline not to exceed 100 sets of chosen disciplinary action.

3rd Offense – The athlete will be removed from the sport that they are currently participating in. They may also be additional discipline decided on by the Brackett ISD Athletic Department.

Note: These offenses are cumulative. When a 3rd offense is reached, the athlete will be removed from the sport they are currently involved in, even if the other two offenses happened in a different sport or earlier in the school year.

3. **DAEP** – Physical discipline administered by the in season coach, plus loss of playing time.

1st Offense – An amount of physical discipline not to exceed 75 sets of chosen disciplinary action. This physical discipline must be completed before the athlete is eligible for athletic competition. In addition, the athlete will lose half of the next eligible athletic competition.

2nd Offense – An amount of physical discipline not to exceed 150 sets of chosen disciplinary action. This physical discipline must be completed before the athlete is eligible for athletic competition. In addition, the athlete will lose participating in the next eligible athletic competition.

3rd Offense – Removal from the Brackett ISD athletic program for a period of one calendar year.

Note: These offenses are cumulative. When a 3rd offense is reached, the athlete will be removed from the Brackett ISD Athletic Program for no less than one calendar year.

- D. An athlete found guilty of unlawful acts by law enforcement agencies is subject to punishment and/or expulsion from the athletic program.
- E. An athlete found guilty of stealing or willfully destroying school property (this includes opposing schools as well) and/or that of a fellow student may be removed from Brackett ISD athletic programs for one calendar year.

- F. An athlete who uses social media, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, cell phones, texting or emails, to transmit words or images that are vulgar, obscene, threatening, lewd, or harassing, whether on or off school property, may be subject to disciplinary action by the coach. These disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, suspension for part or all of a game(s), and removal from the program for the rest of a season or permanently.
- G. If an athlete starts a sport and quits, he/she will not be allowed to begin another sport for a calendar year from the date of his/her quitting.

If an athlete enters an athletic program and decides to withdraw, then:

1. The decision to withdraw must be made in the first two weeks of practice; and,
2. The athlete must meet in person with the head coach before withdrawing.

If the athlete fails to comply with either provision, then that athlete will not be allowed to enter a different athletic program for one calendar year.

Exception: If an athlete wishes to remove themselves from a sport after the 2-week starting timeframe, the student must meet with his/her head coach. If there is an amicable agreement between coach and athlete, the athlete is allowed to continue participating in another sport without a 1- year waiting period.

- H. Athletes are expected to maintain favorable attitudes and conduct during the off-season athletic periods. If the attitude and/or conduct of the athlete become a detriment to others in the program, the athlete may be dismissed.
- I. Athletes will behave on the team bus. They will keep the bus clean and will not yell or extend their arms and/or legs out of the windows. Nothing will be thrown inside or outside the bus. Disciplinary action for these violations may include, but is not limited to, physical punishment, suspension for part or all of a game(s), and removal from the program for the rest of a season or permanently.
- J. Athletes will show good character on all out of town trips. Care should be taken to leave all places visited clean and neat. Disciplinary action for these violations may include, but is not limited to, physical punishment, suspension for part or all of a game(s), and removal from the program for the rest of a season or permanently.
- K. An athlete whose actions are in violation of good sportsmanship may be subject to disciplinary action by the coach. These disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to physical punishment, suspension for part or all of a game(s), and removal from the program for the rest of a season or permanently. These behaviors include but are not limited to:
 1. Disrespect to a teacher, coach, or member of the school administration
 2. Temper fits and flagrant violations of rules
 3. Unsportsmanlike conduct toward a teammate, coach, an opponent, or an official.

L. Student athletes are placed on an “honor system” and should report any misconduct of regulations to his/her coach. It is important that his/her behavior be above reproach in the following areas:

- **Alcohol:** If an athlete receives a citation, such as but not limited to an MIP, MIC, DUI, or if the coach acts on information that an athlete is engaged in an illegal activity involving alcohol, disciplinary action will follow the punishment policy stated in this athletic code.
- **Drugs:** Illegal drugs of any type, or over-the-counter drugs or substances that cause impairment of physical and mental faculties, such as but not limited to, synthetic marijuana, are forbidden. Disciplinary action will be uniform and consistent for each Brackett ISD athletic program and will follow the punishment policy stated in this athletic code.

First offense: The participant shall run 20 miles as a physical punishment and may also be suspended from a game(s). All running will be done after practice and must be monitored by a Brackett ISD coach. Required running must be completed before athlete may return to competition. For activities that have primarily one competition per week, the participant shall be suspended for one game. This suspension shall pertain to football, cross country, golf, track and tennis. For activities that have primarily two competitions per week, the participant shall be suspended for two games. This suspension shall pertain to volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball.

Second offense: The participant shall run 30 miles as a physical punishment and may also be suspended from more than one game(s). All running will be done after practice and must be monitored by a Brackett ISD coach. Required running must be completed before athlete may return to competition. For activities that have primarily one competition per week, the participant shall be suspended for two or more games. This suspension shall pertain to football, cross country, golf, track and tennis. For activities that have primarily two competitions per week, the participant shall be suspended for four or more games. This suspension shall pertain to volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball.

Third overall offense: The participant may be removed from the athletic program permanently.

*In addition, mandatory and random drug testing will be administered by Brackett ISD for all students participating in extracurricular activities. The Brackett ISD athletic program will follow all drug testing policies established by the Brackett School Board and Brackett ISD Administration.

*On any out of town trips, athlete's bags may be searched before, during, or after a trip if any suspicious activity or wrong doing is expected. Also, on overnight trips, coaches will be placed in athletes rooms whenever applicable.

M. Athletics is a school-related activity, and as such operates under the umbrella of the Student Code of Conduct, Board policy and state regulations.

III. Athletic Participation:

All students must be involved in a sport to participate in the athletic period. If a participant goes through an entire year in off-season they will not be eligible for the athletic period the following year. This also includes a student who is ineligible for the entire year due to failing grades. Also, a student must complete one semester of off-season, before that student is eligible for athletic competition, unless the athlete is a newly enrolled student. If students miss practice and/or off-season the athlete may be subject to make up work or extra conditioning administered by the in season coach, or off season coach.

IV. Athletic Behavioral Contract:

Any students who violate the Brackett ISD Athletic code or any other athletic policies will be subject to being placed on a behavioral contract. This could include, but not limited to: 1) Breaking of athletic policies, 2) Disrespect, 3) Dismissal from a sport or the Brackett ISD athletic program for any period of time, 4) Breaking of any State or Federal laws, 5) Multiple ISS assignments (more than the guidelines discussed earlier) within a school year. This contract will be agreed upon and signed by all parties involved. The contract will serve as the athlete's final chance to correct any behavior or behaviors that violated rules and guidelines set forth by the Brackett ISD athletic department. Any violation of this contract, will result in a dismissal from the Brackett ISD athletic program for up to, but not limited to one calendar year.

Brackett ISD Athletic Code

(Available on-line at www.brackettisd.net on Athletics Page)

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS SHEET.

PRINT STUDENT ATHLETE NAME

STUDENT ATHLETE SIGNATURE

PRINT PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

***STUDENT PARENT/GUARDIAN
SIGNATURE***