

Descriptor Term: DRUG AND STEROID USE IN SCHOOL ATHLETICS	Descriptor: JJIE	Issued: DRAFT
	Rescinds: JCDAC	Issued: 8/12/03

I. POLICY

The Tupelo Public School District (“TPSD”) recognizes that drug and alcohol use by student athletes presents special concerns about the dangerous combination of drugs or alcohol and sports. While the misuse or abuse of alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription and even non-prescription drugs is unsafe for any student, the physical demands placed upon student athletes in sports practice and competition make such misuse or abuse dangerous. The athlete’s use of drugs or alcohol increases the risk of sports related injuries and impairs judgment, coordination and reaction, leading to injuries on the playing field to both the athlete using drugs and other teammates or opponents. Athletic conditioning can be continuous, so the concern for safety does not diminish during the off-season of a sport.

The incidence of drug use by Tupelo High School students, and especially student athletes, is not great, but even though the number of cases is small, the danger to individual students is magnified by physical exertion. Additionally, TPSD finds that, since physical conditioning, practice, and competition can often be an almost daily activity, the indication of drug use in the recent past means that (1) the student athlete most probably exercised with the drug (or alcohol) in the student’s system and (2) the student athlete may exercise under the influence of drugs or alcohol in the future unless there is reasonable intervention provided in this policy.

In addition to focusing on the serious health risks posed by student athlete drug and alcohol use, TPSD has elected to test student athletes because of their status within the school community. Student athletes generally are prominent members of the student body who are viewed with admiration and respect. This status places student athletes in a leadership role that gives them the power to influence other students’ behavior. Accordingly, drug and alcohol use by student athletes can have a negative effect on the general health and welfare of all students.

In response to the serious health risks and other risks posed by student athlete drug and alcohol use, TPSD has implemented a student athlete drug and alcohol testing policy which is designed to provide early detection of drug use and to eradicate or reduce significantly use and influence of prohibited drugs, alcohol and other chemicals by students participating in TPSD athletic programs.

In pursuit of these purposes, TPSD declares that the use of prohibited drugs and alcohol, or intoxication and physical influence thereof, by student athletes is inherently unsafe. Such use, intoxication or influence should be detected and prevented and such student athletes should be counseled, educated and monitored.

II. AUTHORITY

This policy was adopted and is implemented by the TPSD Board of Trustees by and through the Tupelo High School Administrative Staff.

III. APPLICABILITY

All students enrolled in TPSD who are in 7th grade or higher and who participate, or who have expressed an intention to participate, in any Tupelo High School athletic program shall be subject to drug and/or alcohol testing to the extent and manner provided for in this policy.

This policy and the TPSD Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy, JICH, shall be administered separately and concurrently. Tests occurring under this policy shall not be used for or considered for the purposes of the TPSD Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy, but test results under Policy JICH may be considered for the purposes of athletic eligibility and for testing or monitoring under this policy. Student athletes are subject both to Policy JICH and to this policy.

IV. DEFINITIONS

“Alcohol” or “alcoholic beverage” means ethyl alcohol (ethanol). References to use or possession of alcohol include use or possession of any beverage, mixture or preparation containing ethyl alcohol.

“Anabolic steroids” mean a class of synthetic compounds which resemble the natural male hormone testosterone or which promote muscle tissue growth at a rate above that which can be obtained through training and nutrition, leading to increased muscle mass, power and strength.

“Athletic Department” shall mean the Tupelo High School Athletic Department.

“Confirmation test” means a drug and alcohol test on a specimen to substantiate the results of a prior drug and alcohol test on the specimen. The confirmation test must use an alternate method of equal or greater sensitivity than that used in the previous drug and alcohol test.

“Drug and/or alcohol test” means a chemical test administered for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of a drug or alcohol in a person’s bodily fluids.

“Illegal drug” means a prohibited drug as set forth below or a drug listed as illegal under Mississippi law or a drug which is illegal to use under Mississippi law without a prescription.

“Initial test” means an initial drug test to determine the presence or absence of drugs or related metabolites or of alcohol and its metabolites in specimens.

“Medical Review Officer” or “MRO” means a licensed physician, either a doctor or medicine or doctor of osteopathy, or other medical or scientific expert knowledgeable in drug abuse disorders, employed to help the TPSD interpret, evaluate and monitor its drug-testing program.

“Negative drug test” means a drug or alcohol test that does not show evidence of alcohol or a prohibited drug in a student athlete’s system.

“Positive drug test” means a drug or alcohol test that indicates the presence of alcohol or a prohibited drug in a student athlete’s system.

“Prescription or non-prescription medication” means a drug prescribed for use by a duly licensed physician, dentist or other medical practitioner licensed to issue prescriptions or a drug that is authorized pursuant to federal or state law for general distribution and use without a prescription in the treatment of human diseases, ailments or injuries.

“Prohibited drug” means any drug which is considered a part of the group of drugs listed in Section V of this Drug Testing Policy.

“Random testing” means a neutral selection basis of testing for drugs and/or alcohol which provides a mechanism for selecting student athletes for testing that: (i) results in an equal probability that any athlete from a pool of athletes subject to the selection mechanism will be

selected, and (ii) does not give TPSD and school personnel the discretion to waive the selection of any student athlete selected under the mechanism.

“Reasonable suspicion drug or alcohol testing” means drug and alcohol testing based on a belief that a student is using or has used drugs in violation of this policy as indicated in Article X.

“Specimen” means a tissue or product of the human body chemically capable of revealing the presence of drugs or alcohol in the human body.

“THS” shall mean Tupelo High School.

“TPSD” means the Tupelo Public School District.

V. PROHIBITED DRUGS/ALCOHOL

The list of prohibited drugs is attached to this policy as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference. The THS Principal shall designate those drugs for which tests shall be administered.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy has been in effect since 1988 and has been periodically reviewed and updated. A complete review and update was accomplished in 1997. All student athletes and their parents or guardians will continue to be notified of this policy upon entrance of a student athlete into an athletic program. The THS and TMS Principals shall be responsible for the fair, impartial and complete implementation of this policy and for ensuring the no-notice, surprise nature of all testing. The TPSD Athletic Director shall be responsible for the coordination and execution of all testing. The effective date of this revised policy shall be July 1, 2000.

VII. CONSENT/REFUSAL TO CONSENT

Upon implementation of the student athlete drug and alcohol testing policy, all student athletes and the parents/guardians of student athletes shall be asked to sign a consent form acknowledging the policy, authorizing the test for prohibited drugs and alcohol as provided for in this policy and consenting to the release of the tests results to the TPSD Athletic Director and the parents/guardians of the athlete. Results may also be released to the Superintendent or his designee, the school principal and coaches on a need-to-know and confidential basis. A suggested form is attached as Exhibit A to this policy. If a student athlete and/or the athlete’s parent/guardian decline or fail to sign the consent form, the student athlete will be ineligible to participate in any TPSD athletic program.

VIII. PRE-SEASON TESTING

As an annual prerequisite for participation in a TPSD athletic program, each student athlete must submit to an unannounced drug and/or alcohol test. Any student who tests positive for drugs and/or alcohol may be ineligible to participate in TPSD athletic programs as provided in this policy, or, in the discretion of the Athletic Director, may participate subject to the provisions of Article XIII of this policy.

IX. RANDOM TESTING

Student athletes as defined in Section IV of this policy will be tested on a random basis for use of prohibited drugs and/or alcohol. Random tests shall be initiated by the testing laboratory or MRO without prior notice, except that the THS Principal shall receive notice from the MRO or testing laboratory not more than one (1) hour prior to the commencement of collection of specimens. The random testing shall not be announced or revealed prior to the time of commencement and shall be conducted on a no-notice, surprise basis. Athletic Department staff

shall not be involved in the collection, storage, labeling, or handling of specimens from random testing. The TPSD Superintendent and THS Principal shall determine the percentage of student athletes tested in any one (1) random test, not to exceed ten percent (10%).

X. REASONABLE SUSPICION TESTING FOR STEROID USE

TPSD may require any student athlete to submit to a drug test if there is reasonable suspicion that the student athlete has or is using anabolic steroids. Reasonable suspicion must be based on observable physical, behavioral or performance indicators of probable anabolic steroid use. Reasonable suspicion will not arise when indicators are not observed as provided in Article X of this policy.

The following observation indicator constitutes the primary factors for reasonable suspicion testing for anabolic steroids:

1. Rapid, marked increase in body muscle, mass, strength and performance which cannot be explained alone by training, nutrition and exercise.
- ~~2. In addition to the primary factor listed above, reasonable suspicion may be confirmed by:~~
 - a) Jaundice due to liver dysfunction
 - b) Virilization in females (increased body hair, deepening of voice)
 - c) Breast enlargement in males
 - d) Insomnia, ~~or~~
 - e) Depression

Any THS TPSD staff member who reasonably suspects that a student athlete is using an anabolic steroid shall report such suspicions to the THS athlete's Principal. The staff member and the THS Principal must agree that the observable indicators constitute reasonable suspicion of possible steroid use before a student athlete can be tested under these provisions.

XI. SPECIMEN COLLECTION

All breath, urine and blood specimens will be collected under reasonable and sanitary conditions. Individual dignity and privacy will be preserved to the extent practicable. Universally accepted standards for testing, labeling, storage and transportation of specimens will be strictly followed by the testing facilities. The MRO will request information before each confirmation test regarding prescription and non-prescription drugs and any other information which could lead to a false positive test. Athletic Department staff members shall not be involved in specimen collection.

XII. TESTING PROCEDURES

A laboratory certified by the national Institute of Drug Abuse will be designated by TPSD to perform all initial drug and alcohol tests. The laboratory and the MRO will be responsible for the handling and safe delivery of all positive specimens to the confirmation laboratory and such delivery will be accomplished through proper chain of custody procedures.

XIII. FINDING OF DRUG AND/OR ALCOHOL USE CONSEQUENCES

First Violation

If the initial test for drugs or alcohol indicates a negative result, no further test will occur unless there is good reason to suspect the quality of the specimen sample. If the initial test indicates a positive result, a confirmation test will be conducted immediately. Should the confirmation test also indicate a positive result, the following consequences shall be imposed:

- (1) The Athletic Director will notify the student athlete and the athlete's parent/guardian in writing of such positive test results.
- (2) The student athlete shall be suspended from all athletic participation, including tryouts, for a minimum of thirty days.

(3) The student athlete shall submit to a mandatory drug test on or about thirty days after the date on which TPSD received notification of the confirmation tests' positive result. TPSD will be responsible for the cost of the test and the date it will be administered. A positive test result shall constitute a separate violation of this policy and shall be treated as a second violation.

(4) The student athlete shall be required to attend a drug counseling or education program. A TPSD drug counselor shall determine the length and manner of counseling which suits the best interest of the individual student athlete. Refusal to participate in the counseling program, as set forth in this paragraph, will be treated and handled as a second positive test result.

(5) The student athlete will not be allowed to resume participation until he/she has had a negative drug test.

(6) The student athlete will be required to submit to periodic or unannounced retests during the academic year of the violation.

Second Violation

Should a student athlete test positive for a second time, the following consequences shall be imposed.

(1) The Athletic Director will notify the student athlete and the athlete's parent/guardian in writing of such positive test results.

(2) The student athlete shall be suspended from all athletic participation, including tryouts, for a minimum of sixty days.

(3) The student athlete shall be required to attend a drug counseling or rehabilitation program at the expense of the student/parent/ guardian. A TPSD drug counselor shall refer the student athlete to a TPSD approved outside drug counseling agency. Documentation of attendance and completion of counseling must be submitted to the Athletic Director before eligibility is reinstated.

(4) The student athlete shall submit to mandatory drug testing during the academic year of the violation as often as deemed appropriate by the administration. The student athlete will not be allowed to resume participation on any athletic team until he/she presents a negative result on a retest.

Third Violation

Should a student athlete test positive for a third time, the following consequences shall be imposed.

(1) The Athletic Director will notify the student athlete and the athlete's parent/guardian in writing of such positive test results.

(2) The student athlete shall be suspended from all athletic participation, including tryouts, for a minimum of one year.

(3) The student athlete shall be required to attend a drug counseling or rehabilitation program at the expense of the student/parent/ guardian. A TPSD drug counselor shall refer the student athlete to a TPSD approved outside drug counseling agency. Documentation of attendance and completion of counseling must be submitted to the Athletic Director before eligibility is reinstated.

(4) The student athlete shall submit to mandatory drug testing during the academic year of the violation as often as deemed appropriate by the administration. The student athlete will not be allowed to resume participation on any athletic team until he/she presents a negative result on a retest.

No positive test results as described under Section XIII of this policy will be used as grounds to discipline, suspend or expel a student athlete, except for the guidelines provided in this policy. Any student athlete who intentionally evades a preseason or random test will be suspended from practice and competition until a test is taken and may be subject to discipline for the evasion.

XIV. APPEAL

A student athlete has the right to appeal a decision of the Athletic Department by following the complaint procedures as outlined in School Board Policy JIA, Student Due Process Rights. Participation in athletic programs at Tupelo High School is a privilege only and the student athlete has no property right or interests in athletic participation.

XV. MEDICAL REVIEW OFFICER

TPSD, as part of its student athlete drug and alcohol testing program, will utilize the services of a medical review officer (MRO) as designated by TPSD. The MRO will interpret, monitor and evaluate all positive test results so as to determine whether any alternative medical explanation could account for the positive results. The MRO must be a licensed physician, or group of licensed physicians, knowledgeable in drug abuse disorders.

XVI. CONFIDENTIALITY

The results of a student athlete's drug and/or alcohol test shall not be released to anyone other than the Medical Review Officer, the Athletic Director and the student athlete's parents/guardians. Results may also be released to the Board of Trustees, the Superintendent or his designee, the school principal or building administrator, school board attorney and athletic department personnel on a need-to-know and confidential basis. No other person may receive the test results of a student athlete without the express authorization and consent of the student athlete and his/her parent/guardian.

XVII. COST

TPSD will bear the cost of all drug and alcohol tests required by TPSD for student athletes. The student athlete or his/her parent/guardian will pay the costs of any retest requested by the student athletes and of all tests required after a violation of this policy, as outlined in Section XIII above.

XVIII. DRUG EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

TPSD provides drug and alcohol education at several levels. TPSD requires drug education and counseling, at student expense, as a prerequisite to continuing to participate as a student athlete and for reinstatement to an athletic program after suspension.

XIX. XVIII USE OF PRESCRIPTION OR LEGAL NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

TPSD recognizes that from time to time its student athletes, for medical reasons, may take certain drugs prescribed by their physician including certain prohibited drugs. TPSD also recognizes that student athletes may, from time to time, for various medical reasons take certain non-prescription drugs. Any student who needs to take prescription or legal non-prescription drugs may (but is not required to) notify the Athletic Director or an athletic department staff member and provide a copy of the prescription, or in the case of non-prescription drugs, a note from the parent/guardian that the student athlete has permission to possess and take the non-prescription drugs. The prescription or the note should state how long the student will be taking the drugs. Both the prescription and the note should be specific about the type or description of drug to be taken. The Athletic Director and staff member shall keep the information confidential and in a secure location.

Prior to an initial drug and alcohol test, a student athlete may voluntarily disclose the use of any prescription or non-prescription drugs, but will not be required to do so. If the initial test results are positive, the MRO shall request from the student athlete and/or the parent/guardian information regarding what, if any, prescription and non-prescription drugs, the student athlete was using at the time of the test.

Information regarding a student athlete's need for and possession and use of prescription and non-prescription drugs is considered confidential, sensitive and private. The information is necessary and will only be used for the assistance of the student athlete needing the medications, the safety of that athlete and other student athletes, and, in the event of a positive initial test result, to assist the MRO in determining possible causes of a false-positive test.

The information should only be available to the Athletic Director or athletic department personnel to the extent practical.

EXHIBIT I

PROHIBITED DRUGS

1. The following is a list of prohibited drugs:

(a.) Psychomotor stimulants:

Amphetamine	pemoline	methylamphetamine
benzphetamine	phenmetrazine	methylphenidate
chlorphetermine	pipradol	norseudoephedrine
cocaine	ethylamphetamine	phendimetrazine
diethylpropion	fencamfamin	phentermine
dimethylamphetamine	meclofenoxate	prolintane and related compounds

(b.) Sympathomimetic amines:

chlorprenaline	methoxyphenamine	methylephedrine
ephedrine	isoprenaline	phenylpropanolamine
etafedreine	isoetharine	and related drugs

(c.) Miscellaneous central nervous system stimulants:

amiphenazole	crolethamide	nikethamide
bemigrade	doxapram	picrotoxine
caffeine	ethamivan	strychnine
cropropamide	leptazol	and related compounds

DRUG AND STEROID USE IN SCHOOL ATHLETICS

JJIE

(d.) Anabolic steroids:

clostebol	methenolone	oxymesterone
dehydrochlormethyl-testosterone	methandienone	oxymetholone
fluoxymesterone	nadrolone	stanozolol
mesterolone	norethandrolone	testosterone
	oxandrolone	and related compounds

(e.) Alcohol

(f.) Diuretics:

bendroflumethiazide	ethacrynic acid	metolazone
benzthiazide	flumethiazide	polythiazide
bumetanide	flurosemide	quinethazone
chlorothiazide	hydrochlorothiazide	spironolactone
chlorthalidone	hydroflumenthiazide	triameterene
cyclothiazide	methyclothiazide	trichlormethiazide
		and related compounds

(g.) Street drugs:

amphetamine	marijuana
cocaine	MDMA "Ecstasy"
heroin	THC (tetrahydrocannabinol)

2. Exceptions may be made for those student-athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of such a drug.