



Cardinal  
Athletics



## Cardinal Code of Conduct

*The opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities is a privilege that is granted by the Santa Paula Unified School District. Cardinal students involved in extra-curricular programs must follow the Santa Paula High School Code of Conduct. Santa Paula High School has the authority to revoke the privilege of participating in extra-curricular programs if a student does not follow the Cardinal Code of Conduct and its rules and regulations.*

### Cardinal Code of Conduct Regulations:

#### Eligibility:

1. Student athletes and pep squad members will pass a physical examination and provide proof/hard copy to Athletic Office prior to participating in try outs and/or the first practice.
2. Have medical/accident insurance prior to participating in try outs and/or the first practice. **(Via On Line Clearance Process)**
3. All students participating in extra-curricular programs must have Cardinal Code of Conduct, Cardinal Social Media Contract, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form, CIF Code of Ethics, and Concussion Signs and Symptoms forms signed by both student athlete and parent/guardian. **(Via On Line Clearance Process)**
4. All students participating in extra-curricular programs must meet the requirement of having at least a 2.0 GPA and be passing a minimum of 20 credits (4 classes) for the grading period immediately preceding their season of sport/activity. They must also maintain at least a 2.0 GPA and be passing a minimum of 20 credits (4 classes) for each grading period in which they are participating. Only report card grades will determine eligibility (these are the grades issued at the end of the first quarter, first semester, third quarter and second semester). These are also the mandatory minimum C.I.F. requirements for athletic eligibility.
5. Students must be enrolled in the SPSHS regular education system attending at least four periods Monday through Friday and be on track to graduation with their class. Students that are severely credit deficient will not be able to participate in extracurricular activities. (More than 10 credits deficient). In the case of a student being placed in Independent Studies due to an exceptional circumstance, the Superintendent or designee may allow the student to participate in extra-curricular programs provided the student meets CIF eligibility.
6. If an athlete attempts to improve a grade during summer school by taking the EXACT same class that was taken the previous grading period, the summer school grade can replace the original grade. However, if the student takes a DIFFERENT class than was previously taken, the summer school grade is to be averaged with all grades received at the prior grading period. NOTE: Summer school course taken MUST be completed before the start of the next semester in order for that grade to count towards the previous semester gpa.
7. The cut- off date for new athletes (not participating in a current season of sport) will be at the pre scheduled open tryout dates.

The cut-off date for in season athletes (currently participating in a current season of sport) will be one week after the last day of league or playoff competition (whichever comes first). (This does not include athletes who has had an injury or long-term illness.)

### **Attendance:**

Cardinal participants must have good attendance. If attendance problems become habitual, according to District Policy #5013, *the participant will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities indefinitely or until the student has demonstrated proper attendance. Unexcused absences and/or excess tardies during an athlete's season of sport may be cause for suspension from participation.*

### **Loyalty:**

A Cardinal participant shows loyalty to his/her fellow students by finishing the season/event that he/she starts. If a student quits or is removed from the team/event for disciplinary reasons he/she may not participate on another team or event/activity until the beginning of the next season of sport or activity. There is one exceptions to this rule:

1. During his/her season in a sport/event a Cardinal participant who is not involved in a disciplinary action may quit before the first contest/event without penalty.

It is a Cardinal participant's responsibility to attend all practices/meetings unless the absence is cleared ahead of time with the coach/advisor, except in the case of an accident or verified illness. Missing a practice or event without notifying the coach/advisor may result in suspension or dismissal from the team/activity.

Athletes will attend all practices to be eligible for contests. If an absence is unavoidable due to medical or dental appointment, academically required activity, or leadership activity, it is the responsibility of the athlete to notify his/her coach prior to practice. Such absences will not be held against the student athlete and will not affect eligibility for contests.

### **Behavior:**

Cardinal participants are expected to display good sportsmanship at all times. Temper tantrums, foul language, throwing equipment, obscene gestures, baiting opponents, and breaking team rules will not be tolerated. Violating these policies will be dealt with by the coach/advisor/administration. Participants must exhibit respect to all school personnel including personnel from the participating schools(s).

Suspension from school will result in removal from contests/events and practices for the period of suspension in accordance with the District Policy #5010.

*Severe rule violations such as vandalism, hazing, theft, possession of weapons, verbal abuse of other students or adults, unprovoked assault and habitual violations of school rules are subject to immediate removal from all activities for a minimum of nine weeks.*

### **Hazing:**

Hazing is the practice of rituals and other activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group.

Santa Paula High School will not tolerate any form of hazing. Any student athletes found to be involved in any way are subject to disciplinary action that could include dismissal from the team.

Substance use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or any intoxicating or mind-altering chemical or substance at school or during a school activity will result in immediate removal from the activity and a suspension from all contests events for a minimum of nine weeks from date of the incident. Ed Code 48900 (s)(4.)- *Act that is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of a district, including but not limited to during or while going to or from a school-sponsored activity.* Athletics must also refrain from the use of illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids or any substance to increase physical development or performance that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Surgeon General of the United States or American Medical Association. Athletes are subject to immediate removal from the athletic program for the remainder of the school year and may also face more severe penalties if they are found using these illegal substances.

Incidents will be reported to site administration and depending on the severity may result in expulsion.

### **Off-Campus- Behavior Not Tolerated:**

Cardinal Athletes who are representing Santa Paula High School and are involved in conduct unbecoming of an athlete and contrary to the Cardinal Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and/or removal from the team/activity. All charges or allegations will be investigated by the Athletic Director and Site Administration prior to taking disciplinary action.

### **Transportation:**

Cardinal participants must travel to and from events in transportation provided by the school. Exceptions require prior arrangements between the participants, parent/guardian and the Athletic Director/Administrator. The parent/guardian must provide written permission to the coach/advisor prior to the departure for the event in order to travel separately to and from events with the parent only. No other student may ride with another person other than his or her parent/guardian. The Athletic Director works with each coach to organize transportation. Personal vehicles that are to be used for organized transportation to and from a sports event or competition need to have SPUSD approval and clearance. Students 18 years of age or older are not allowed to drive themselves to and from sporting events.

Early release times for students to attend a sports event have been pre-determined and are communicated with all teachers and staff at SPSHS. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LEAVE EARLIER THAN YOUR DESIGNATED TIME.** Student-athletes violating this rule will be marked absent (truant) and will not play on that day!

### **In Season Practices:**

All in season athletes are only obligated to attend in-season sport workouts. **You are not obligated to attend off-season sports nor will you be penalized for not attending off-season sport workouts.** Remember academics are always first and you need a minimum of a 2.0 GPA if you also wish to play fall sports next year. Also, be sure you get your body some needed rest as well.

### **Outside Participation:**

CIF ARTICLE 60 Rule 600: A student on a high school team becomes ineligible if the student competes on an "OUTSIDE" team, in the same sport, during the students high school season of sport.

The Outside Competition Rule pertains to all levels of competition. Thus any individual participating at the Varsity, Junior Varsity, Sophomore and/or Freshmen levels may not compete on an outside team for the same sport during his or her high school season.

Do not jeopardize your eligibility or your team's eligibility!

### **Letter and Awards:**

Lettering, award policies and procedures will be determined by the head coach or advisor of each sport or activity. Students earning letter may purchase their block SP chenilles at the Student Store when they show their participation certificate. Athletes **must** finish the entire season of sport to qualify for any letter and/or awards.

### **Parent/Guardian Complaints:**

If a parent/guardian has a complaint:

1. He/she is to first discuss the matter with the individual coach/advisor. He/she may request the Athletic Director or Principal designee to be present.
2. If a parent is not satisfied with the results of the conference, he/she has the option, of informing the Athletic Director/Principal's designee in writing. The Athletic Director or the Administrator's designee will meet the parent and coach to resolve the complaint.

If a parent still feels the problem has not been resolved he/she may appeal to the Principal.

### **Injuries**

Some forms of Athletic Competitions or extra-curricular activities may result in physical contact among participants. Strenuous physical exertion and exposure to the risk of injury are components of athletics. Participation may put students in situations in which serious and perhaps fatal accidents may occur. By granting permission for your student to participate in athletic/extra-curricular activities you the parent/guardian acknowledge that such risks do exist. All injuries must be reported immediately to the Athletic Coach/Advisor.

This Cardinal Code of Conduct must be signed by both the student and a parent/guardian and must be on file with the Athletic Director/Advisor prior to a student participating in any try out/practice/contest/activity.

**RETAIN PAGES 1-5 OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**  
**RETURN this page to the Athletic Director/Advisor prior to**  
**participating in all contests/activities.**

I have read the Cardinal Code of Conduct and agree to adhere to the requirements.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Full Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Full Name (Sign): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (Sign): \_\_\_\_\_

Should an injury occur that requires immediate attention and/or hospital service. I authorize the SPUSD and its representatives to arrange such services as may be necessary.

I have read and understand this notice regarding participation in extra-curricular activities. I agree to defend, indemnify and hold the Santa Paula Unified School District, its directors, officers, agents, employees and individual members, free and harmless from and against any and all liability claims, demands, from any accident or injury or other cause of action that may arise on behalf of my son/daughter as a result of his/her participation in Santa Paula High School extra-curricular programs.

This authorization shall remain effective for the school year unless revoked in writing and delivered to said agents. I understand that the Santa Paula Unified School District does not provide medical or accident insurance for students with regards to school related injuries.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (Sign): \_\_\_\_\_