



GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY CODE

2019-20

GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CODE

ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES

The purpose of this Activities Code is to promote student responsibility and accountability by clearly stating the expectations for the participants and the consequences for students' failure to fulfill the stated academic and behavioral expectations.

Participants will be expected to sign not less than annually and adhere to the Grafton High School Activities Code for the duration of a student's high school career. These activities include, but are not limited to ***district and school supported*** athletics and co-curricular activities.

I. NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Grafton Board of Education complies with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U. S. Department of Education. It is the policy of the Grafton Board of Education that no person on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to, discrimination in its education programs or activities for which it is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education.

Federal law and the Wisconsin Fair Employment Law also prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

II. PHILOSOPHIES AND OBJECTIVES

The opportunity for participation in various activities is a vital part of a student's total educational experience. This participation is a privilege that does carry with it responsibilities for each of the students who choose to take part in one or more of the activities. Every effort shall be made to show the student the real goals and objectives for which the activities were established.

Objectives of the Activities Program at Grafton High School are as follows:

- A. To provide a program of activities that will give each participant the opportunity to grow mentally, physically, morally (play by the rules, etc.), and socially.
- B. To meet the desire for competition, performance, and achievement.
- C. To teach new skills and offer opportunities to improve those already present skills.
- D. To emphasize the importance of organization and time management.
- E. To provide opportunities for lasting friendships.
- F. To provide opportunities to exemplify and observe good character, which is a part of good citizenship.
- G. To teach that a penalty follows the violation of a rule.
- H. To develop leadership and responsibility.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPANTS

Your greatest responsibility as a participant is to be a credit to yourself, your family, your school, and your community. Therefore it is expected that you will:

- A. Meet and exceed the academic standards set in this handbook.
- B. Display high standards of social behavior at all times.
- C. Display good character.
- D. Display a real spirit of cooperation.
- E. Dress appropriately when representing your school.
- F. Refrain from vulgarity and harassing comments.

IV. ENFORCEMENT PERIOD

The rules and regulations stated herein will be observed on a twelve-month basis (for interscholastic athletics, this is per WIAA policy). The period begins when a student participates in an activity for the first time and remains in effect until the student graduates. This includes students at the 8th grade level who try out and make a high school team (i.e. Dance Team, Cheerleading, and Music Ensembles).

V. DEFINITIONS

- Season – Begins with the first formal contact with the advisor/coach during the school year that activity convenes. For athletics, this is the first day of practice. For other activities this would be the first organizational or sign up day. A season ends after the completion of the final competition (all group I and group II activities outlined in section VI below) or end of the school year.
- Competition – for athletics this would be considered a game or contest. For other activities, this would include events like performances and culminating events.
- Administration – Principal, Associate Principal/Athletic Director, Dean of Students
- Advisor – coach, director, and/or group advisor.

VI. CATEGORIES OF ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

A wide variety of activities are offered at Grafton High School. For the purpose of issuing consistent and fair consequences for the variety of activities, they have been grouped below:

GROUP	DEFINITION OF ACTIVITY
I	Interscholastic Competition
II	Activities with a culminating event(s) or performance(s) that are not offered as a class
III	Elected/membership requirement must be fulfilled
IV	Activities not meeting the above

VII. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT/ELIGIBILITY

- A. A student must meet Grafton High School and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade in the most recent grade reporting period.
- B. A student must have a grade point average of 2.0 or above for the most recent grading period (1st and 3rd quarters and final semester grades). This provision is in addition to the “not more than one” (1) F rule. The initial check of academic eligibility will be the first grading period prior to the “season”. For groups/organizations other than sports, the first day of the “season” will be the day of first official contact in the school year that the activity is held. Sign up day for forensics, for example, would be the first day of the “season”.
- C. Students not meeting the academic requirement in section B above will sit out of the following:

Group I, II	Performances/competitions for fifteen (15) school days/nights* or 10% of the season’s performances/competitions, whichever is greater. Athletes would be required to follow other WIAA rules that apply.
Group III	The entire semester for which they have not met the requirements in B above.
Group IV	Group activities for fifteen (15) school days/nights*.

*15 school days and nights are calculated only using dates when school is in session. Students may not participate in weekend competitions/performances for their activity while serving this consequence.

A second grade check will be done at the end of the 15 days for any students that did not initially meet section B requirements. If still not meeting those requirements, the student will not be eligible to participate in practice or competition for the remainder of that quarter. Students who were initially in violation of section B, but pass the second grade check, will continue to have their academic record monitored on a weekly basis. Failing to meet the standard following any weekly check will cause said student to sit out of practice and competition for the remainder of the quarter. Students could appeal the no-practice provision by making an appeal to the principal or his designee (they would still be ineligible for competitions during that time).

VIII. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

Attendance will be checked by an advisor/coach at least once per week. A student involved in an activity is expected to attend all classes on a given day. On days of a competition or performance the student is not to be excused for any hour except to attend a professional appointment approved by a high school administrator (field trip, funeral, etc.). Consequences to be issued by coach/advisor once he or she is made aware of each day the student did not meet this standard are:

Unexcused absence on day of practice	Sit out next scheduled practice
Unexcused absence on day of competition	Sit out next scheduled competition

Excused absence on day of competition <i>Student must be present in every class on day of competition</i> (Not to include a professional appointment, funeral, family emergency or pre-approved absence)	Sit out next scheduled competition
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Note: The coach/advisor may have a rule where missing practice will impact a student's ability to participate in the next scheduled competition. In the final week of the season a coach/advisor may check attendance more than once per week.

IX. BEHAVIOR EXPECTATION

There are varying degrees of offenses for which a student involved in extra-curricular activities can be issued a consequence. Consequences stemming from violations of this handbook will be issued in writing by a member of the high school administration – a copy will be mailed to the parent(s) regardless of the student's age and a copy will be provided to the student.

Degree	Types of Behavior	Points
1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated Behaviors in School/Conduct Unbecoming of a Student-Athlete/Participant. Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insubordination ○ Bullying/harassment/hazing (which does not include police involvement or suspension) • Suspension (that does not include a municipal citation issued) • Academic Dishonesty (Formative Exam) 	1 point for each offense
2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowingly Being in the Presence of Alcohol, Tobacco, or Drugs • Attendance at an event where a 3rd degree violation is occurring and not leaving immediately • Truancy Citation • Participating in Other Activity That Can Rise to a Misdemeanor Citation (i.e. Theft, Vandalism) • Academic Dishonesty (Summative/Final Exam) 	2 points for each offense
3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal Use or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs <i>(Including but not limited to e-cigarettes, vape devices, or any other means of ingesting tobacco/illegal substances).</i> • Bullying/harassment/hazing (that may give rise to recommendation for suspension) 	5 points for each offense <i>3 points for a self-referral (one-time only)</i>
4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sale or furnishing of Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs • Hosting an Event Where Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs Are Consumed • Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs 	7 points for each offense
5th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviors That Rise to the Level of a Felony <p>Per WIAA rule (Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.)</p>	9 points for each offense

Points	Consequences
3	Group I: Ineligible for 20% of all contests/competitions for current activity or next activity. (Calculation based on total number of regular season contests) Group II: Ineligible for culminating event Group III: Ineligible for ½ of the academic school year Group IV: Ineligible for ¼ of the academic school year
5	Group I: Ineligible for 33% of all contests for current or upcoming activity Group II: Ineligible for culminating event Group III: Ineligible for 1 academic school year. Group IV: Ineligible for ½ of the academic school year
7	Group I: Ineligible for 33% of all contests for one calendar year Groups II, III, and IV: Ineligible for 1 calendar year
9	All groups: Ineligible for 1 calendar year. (Time period starts from date of violation).
11	All groups: Ineligible for rest of high school career.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A. Students serving a consequence under previous GHS Activities Code will serve that consequence as assigned. They will then start at 0 points.
- B. Points are cumulative, and will be kept track of throughout a student’s high school career. Point total does not reset at the beginning of each school year, with the exception of 1st degree in-school behavior, which will reset yearly.
- C. Percentages are calculated based off of a whole season for each activity.
- D. If a given season does not contain enough contests for an athlete to fulfill their owed ineligibility, the percentage equivalent will be served in an athlete’s next activity.
- E. Students who violate the illegal use/possession of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs must complete or currently be enrolled in a district approved AODA education program (at student’s expense) before competing in next activity. List of resources provided by the GHS Counseling office.
- F. Students can complete community service hours to eliminate points. However, once a consequence is administered, the athlete will complete that consequence as it is written. Students can subtract one point for every 10 hours of administration-approved community service completed.
- G. Students would be issued one consequence for the highest degree violated for a specific incident. For example: a student hosting a party and also drinking alcohol there would serve a 7-point consequence.
- H. Students should not be attending “events/parties” where drugs/alcohol/tobacco are being consumed or being made available in any manner in violation with the law even if he/she is not drinking/using. In the event that the student unknowingly ends up in such a place, he/she must be able to provide evidence that he/she made every effort to leave immediately.

Failing to leave immediately would be considered a 2-point violation. Students that can adequately provide the required evidence that they left immediately will be given a one-time warning in writing.

- I. Students that are of legal age are still subject to compliance with this handbook in order to participate in school and district sponsored activities (i.e. tobacco use and possession).
- J. Students who have violated this code at a 2nd degree or higher level are not eligible for post-season school or team sponsored awards for the season (or seasons, if it carries over) that the consequence is being served.
- K. Failure to Cooperate/Honesty Clause - Student who does not cooperate with police and/or administration as a part of an investigation who is later found in violation of the code is subject to be issued the appropriate consequence with an additional 1-point added to their consequence.
- L. For a student to self-refer a violation, they must contact the Athletic Director regarding the incident prior to police or other outside party notification.
- M. A coach/advisor may have students sit out of practices/games for issues not addressed in this handbook per team policy.

X. APPEALS PROCESS

Decisions issued from violations of this handbook may be appealed in writing by a student with or without support from parent/legal guardian (see form on page 8). A student remains suspended under the issued consequence until the appeal is heard. The appeal should be provided to the high school principal within 5 school days of the notification (which outlined the offense and the resulting consequence) being delivered by the high school administration. The appeal letter provided to the principal should summarize the reason for appeal and any facts that are in question. The principal will then convene an appeals committee.

The appeals committee will be made up of 3 persons:

- One advisor not involved in the season that will be affected by the consequence being issued
- Superintendent or designee
- Building principal

In the appeal's hearing, the student will provide both written and verbal rationale for the appeal. A parent/guardian may attend in support of the student. The administrator who rendered the original decision for the issuance of the consequence will provide written and verbal rationale for the consequence issued. The appeals committee will hear the arguments made by the student and consider the information provided by the administrator. The committee will make a final and binding decision as to the outcome of the consequence issued and its modification if appropriate. There is no appeal of the committee's decision. The parent(s) and/or student (whoever filed the appeal) will be notified in person or by phone following the committee's adjournment. A letter summarizing the committee's decision will also be mailed.

XI. EQUIPMENT

- A. For the purposes of this section, EQUIPMENT, will refer to any school purchased and issued equipment (athletic and otherwise), uniforms, and other materials used by a student in a given activity or athletic endeavor.
- B. One of the values of participation in an activity or athletic program is to teach responsibility. This should apply to the care of equipment as well as school property. It is expected that all participants will take pride in the fine facilities the people of Grafton have provided for us.
- C. Each student is responsible for the proper care and safekeeping of the equipment/materials issued to him/her. Lockers should be securely locked at all times.
- D. All equipment used is school property and may be used during the duration/season of a particular activity only. It is the responsibility of each student who is issued any type of equipment to return that equipment at the completion of his/her participation in each activity. Each student will be held financially responsible for lost or stolen equipment. Lost or stolen items must be paid for by the student to the school or they will not be allowed to participate in their next activity until the issue is resolved. No awards will be granted until the equipment issue is resolved.
- E. School purchased/issued equipment shall only be worn during practice or contests unless authorized by the coach/advisor for other wearing.

XII. TRAVEL AND CONDUCT ON TRIPS

- A. Participants must use the mode of transportation provided by the school unless special prearrangements are made in writing and approved by the advisor/coach and signed by an administrator. Every athlete is strongly encouraged to make every effort to use Grafton's transportation to and from contests.
- B. Buses will leave at predesignated times. Participants who miss the bus will not be able to drive themselves to an event. A parent/guardian may transport student.
- C. All participants are expected to conduct themselves as good examples of our student body at all times. We are in the eyes of the public off the field or court as well as while competing.
- D. It is imperative that non-participating members of the team/group show good sportsmanship while attending interscholastic events. You are representing your school and your organization when supporting another group.

WIAA - MISC NOTES REGARDING ATHLETICS

Please refer to the WIAA Rules Website at <https://www.wiaawi.org/Schools/Eligibility-Rules-Forms> for further information.

Appeals Form

An appeal of a decision rendered can be done for the following reasons:

- A. Disputing an administrator's interpretation of the handbook
- B. The introduction of additional/new facts in the case

Students making an appeal should complete this form and attach the required letter.

NAME (print): _____

DATE OF SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM AND LETTER: _____

Reason for making the appeals request (check all that apply):

- Disputing an administrator's interpretation of the handbook
- The introduction of additional/new facts in the case

I, am submitting this form and accompanying letter to formally request an appeal of the decision regarding the situation in which I was involved on (date):_____.

A parent/guardian will / will not (circle one) be accompanying me to the appeals hearing.

Student Signature: _____

NOTE: Student should attach a letter that outlines the rationale for requesting the appeal

1. The date the incident took place
2. The decision that was issued
3. Any new information that is applicable which the student wishes to introduce and/or what interpretation of the handbook is being questioned
4. Why the new information potentially changes the decision that was originally rendered

**GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT AND STUDENT ACTIVITY CODE AGREEMENT FORM**

School activities play an important part in the life of Grafton High School. The major objectives of the activities program are to provide opportunities for students to develop favorable habits and attitudes. The information on the preceding pages of this document is designed to provide you with a code that clearly states the expectations that are held for a student and their parent(s)/guardian(s).

Students wishing to participate in activities at Grafton High School are committing to the following:

- I will not drink alcohol
- I will not use illegal drugs or legal drugs in an illegal manner
- I will abide by school rules including but not limited to bullying, hazing, harassing, and fighting.
- I understand that there is inherent risk of injury present through participation in our Group I activities. In particular, when involved in interscholastic athletic practice and contest activities, the risk may be severe, including serious physical injury and even death. In some cases, injury may occur during transportation to and from contests, practices and/or events. I further acknowledge that even with qualified coaching/advising, the use of adequate protective equipment, and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility.
- I have read and understand the items contained in this handbook and agree to abide by them. If I fail to do so, I understand and accept that there are consequences for my choices. It is my responsibility as well to check the website for the most recently board approved version of the code. That is the version of the code to which I'll be held accountable.

Grafton High School expects students involved in any of the activities programs to represent their school, their community, their family and themselves in a positive fashion at all times. The expectations are year round whether or not they are currently involved in an activity. As parents your influence is essential to the understanding and adherence to these expectations by your child.

WE, AS PARENTS/GUARDIANS, HAVE READ ALL THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES CODE HANDBOOK. WE GRANT PERMISSION FOR OUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM. WE FURTHER SUPPORT OUR SON/DAUGHTER'S ADHERENCE TO THE EXPECTATIONS CONTAINED IN THE CODE.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

AS A STUDENT AND PARTICIPANT IN THE GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES PROGRAM, I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO FOLLOW THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS CODE.

Signature of Student

Date