

Whitfield County Schools Drug Screening Procedures

The Whitfield County Board of Education firmly believes that the use and abuse of drugs that are not prescribed or used as prescribed for medical reasons *are detrimental to the physical, emotional and mental well being of its students and its athletes*. It is further believed that this abuse seriously interferes with the academic and athletic performance of our students, is dangerous to the student and creates an unhealthy learning environment. It is from these concerns that this drug screening procedure is initiated.

Goals

- To maintain a drug free athletic program comprised of student athletes who serve as positive role models and who positively influence their peers by leading healthy and responsible lives.
- To encourage any student athlete with a dependence on or addiction to drugs to seek help in overcoming the problem.
- To prevent drug abuse by student athletes.
- To identify the drugs being abused and provide help through counseling or treatment programs for student athletes found to be abusing drugs.

Procedures

- (1). Each student athlete is required to present to the school's athletic director a signed compliance form indicating knowledge of and agreement to participate in the random drug screening procedures on the part of the student athlete and the student's parent/guardian.
- (2). Student athletes must inform their coaches in writing when they are legitimately taking medication that could negatively effect the drug screening process.
- (3). Random testing will take place at any time during the regular season. Testing will consist of the student athlete providing a urine sample to the firm administering the random drug screening. School personnel will supervise but not conduct the tests. The screening firm has ensured confidentiality of the screening results. A lottery type process will select student athletes for testing.
- (4). Results of drug testing will be reported to the school's athletic director. The athletic director will inform parents/guardians and students if results are positive.
- (5). No student athlete testing positive or refusing to test will be penalized academically. Testing results will not be released to criminal or juvenile authorities unless under compulsion by state or federal laws.
- (6). Drugs screened for under this policy may include but are not limited to; alcohol, amphetamines, anabolic steroids, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cocaine, marijuana, methadone, methaqualone, opiates, phencyclidine, and propophene.

Positive Results

First Positive

After notification of the results the student athlete will be immediately suspended from all activities governed by the Georgia High School Association. A meeting will be scheduled that will consist of school administration, athletic director, head coach, parent/guardian and the student athlete to arrange the following;

An agreement to participate in a drug treatment/counseling program approved by the Whitfield County Public Schools. Parents/Guardians are expected to attend the program. Reinstatement to the team can not take place prior to completion of this program.

A contract signed by the student athlete, parent/guardian, and school administration that must include but is not limited to;

An agreement to serve a minimum 4-week suspension from the athletic program during which the student athlete must complete the Super II Program offered through Georgia Highlands and 10 hours of individual counseling with a school counselor. Other programs may be accepted if approved by the school principal.

An agreement to participate willingly in regular drug screening.

An agreement that treatment/counseling must be completed prior to reinstatement to the team.

An agreement/understanding that negative drug screening must be reported prior to reinstatement to the team.

Second Positive

The second positive test will result in suspension from all activities governed by the Georgia High School Association for a minimum of one calendar year. Parents/Guardians and the student athlete will be notified immediately. Regular drug screening is required for reinstatement. Treatment/Counseling, at parent expense, will be a parental responsibility.

In the event parent/guardian or the student athlete believes this procedure has not been applied in a manner consistent with the intent of this process, an appeal may be made to the principal of the student athlete's high school.

This procedure is intended to supplement the existing policies of the Whitfield County Schools. All student athletes are governed by the Whitfield County Schools' Code of Conduct and are subject to discipline procedures if found to possess or be under the influence of illicit drugs or alcohol at school, on school property or at school sponsored events.

Whitfield County Schools
Drug Screening Compliance Form

In an effort to protect our student athletes and maintain the integrity of our athletic programs, the Whitfield County Schools has adopted a policy requiring participation in a drug screening process for all student athletes. All prospective student athletes must complete this form and return it with required signatures before the student athlete will be permitted to try out for an athletic team within the Whitfield County Schools' high school athletic program.

I have read the drug screening procedures and understand that as a participant in an athletic program within the Whitfield County Schools I am subject to all provisions of the Whitfield County Schools' drug screening process. I agree to participate in the process and to the release of all drug-screening results to my parents/guardians and to school district athletic officials.

Signature of student athlete

Date

I am the parent/guardian of _____ . I understand that in order for my child to participate in any athletic program within the Whitfield County Schools that he/she will be subject to the drug screening process adopted by the Whitfield County Board of Education. I have read and understand the process. I agree for my student to participate in the random drug screening and for the results to be released to school district athletic officials.

Signature of parent/guardian

Date