

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy for Athletes Gaston County Schools – February, 1999

- The following is a summary of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy for Athletes
- The purpose of the policy is to identify student athletes who are using or abusing drugs in order that assistance can be provided to them through counseling, education, and treatment.
- Student athletes in grades 9-12 are subject to this policy and must, along with their parents, sign a consent form indicating that they will participate in the random drug testing program.
- Student athletes will be subject to random drug testing throughout the year and will be tested for the following: cocaine, marijuana, PCP, opiates, amphetamines, steroids, and alcohol.
- Random selection of students to be tested will be done through the school system 's athletic director using a computer program designed for this purpose.
- All testing will be done on the school campus by an authorized drug laboratory who will maintain the integrity of the collection process by ensuring the modesty and privacy of the donor.
- Testing for all drugs with the exception of alcohol will be done through urinalysis. Alcohol will be tested with a breath alcohol device.
- All positive drug tests will be reviewed and confirmed by a medical review officer who will contact the student athlete's parents prior to notification of the school.
- Once notified by the medical review officer of a positive drug test, the following penalties will be put in place by the school administration.

First Violation

1. Administrator Parent conference is required
2. Student athlete ineligible to participate in two (2) games matches but is allowed to practice. (One game penalty in football).
3. Mandatory approved drug education program and assessment.
4. Additional mandatory urinalysis.

Second Violation

1. Administrator Parent conference is required.
2. Student athlete ineligible for participation in all sports for one calendar year.
3. Mandatory drug assessment and education program -at least 16 weeks in duration.
4. Additional mandatory urinalysis.

Third Violation

Parent notified and student eliminated from sports program for rest of high school career.

- Student athlete can self-refer once during high school career (not on day of random test).
- Penalty under self-referral same as First Violation except that student will be ineligible to participate in games for five days beginning the day of the self-referral.
- No student athlete will be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs.
- The results of drug tests will not be documented in any student's academic records.

**Complete copy of policy and rules available in office of the principal or athletic director.*