

WYOMING VALLEY WEST MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

The Wyoming Valley West Athletic Department has established a substance abuse policy in order to protect the health and well being of its student athletes and the integrity of its athletic program. Parents and Educators must instruct young people about substance abuse, discipline those who choose to use prohibited substances, and emphasize training and practice rather than the use of chemicals to improve performance. A student athlete who comes in contact with drug or alcohol use should leave the location immediately to avoid temptation and eliminate suspicion.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES - If a student athlete violates the Wyoming Valley West School District Drug Awareness Policy, he/she will be referred to the Student Assistance Program by the Principal. Further, he/she will be subject to all the provisions that are covered under the Wyoming Valley West Drug Awareness Policy.

This policy covers substance abuse in school, on school grounds, on school buses, at school sponsored functions and while students are representing the school. All substance abuse violations shall be cumulative. They shall be carried over from year to year throughout the student athlete's P.I.A.A. career from Grades 7 through 12. The following policy shall apply accordingly:

1. Any student athlete who is found to possess or use drugs or alcohol the first time will be suspended from interscholastic athletic competition for a period of ten (10) calendar days. During the suspended period the athlete cannot practice in his/her sport, dress, nor participate in any interscholastic scrimmage or contest. After ten (10) calendar days, the athlete can return to his or her sport on a full time basis with the approval of their coach. However, should the parent and student be uncooperative with the school officials, the student will be suspended from interscholastic athletic competition for a period of thirty (30) calendar days.

2. Any student athlete who is found to possess or use drugs or alcohol the second time will be suspended from interscholastic athletic competition for thirty (30) calendar days. During the suspended period the athlete cannot practice in his/her sport, dress, nor participate in any interscholastic contest or scrimmage. After thirty (30) calendar days the athlete can return to his/her sport on a full time basis with the approval of their coach.

3. Any student athlete who is found to possess or use drugs or alcohol for the third time will be suspended from further interscholastic participation.

4. A student athlete who has been suspended three times may request reinstatement ninety(90) calendar days after his third offense. The athlete must give evidence of a rehabilitation program before the request can be reviewed. If a review is granted, a committee of three made up of the high school principal or his designated representative, the athletic director, and a coach selected by the principal will review the case. A unanimous vote of the committee is necessary for reinstatement.

5. Any student athlete distributing drugs in school or out of school as well as in an athletic season or outside of an athletic season will receive a ten (10) day out of school suspension, be referred to the School Board for an expulsion hearing and be suspended from interscholastic athletic competition for a full calendar year.

6. Pennsylvania Act 1989-93 prohibits the use of anabolic steroids, except for a valid medical purpose, by any pupil involved in school-related athletics. The Act also requires the School Board to prescribe the following minimum penalties for any pupil found in violation of the rules and regulations adopted by the School Board:

1. For a first violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the seasons.

2. For a second violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season and for the following season.

3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from school athletics. A student who has been suspended for violation of the School Board regulations shall not be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless there has been a medical determination that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

This is to certify that I have received a copy of the Athletic Substance Abuse Policy for the school year 20__ - 20__ from the Wyoming Valley West School District. I understand that I am expected to read it, to understand the policies of the school, and abide by the regulations set forth.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date