

# **Audubon Charter School**

## **Audubon Athletic Activities Code**

It is a privilege and an honor for any student to be permitted to represent his/her school in competitive, performance, and leadership roles. Audubon Athletics offer numerous opportunities for students to become involved in school activities with a wide range of teams, clubs, organizations, and positions. This Activities Code provides students and parents with the expectations that we have of students who participate in school activities.

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The school's Athletic Program will provide students with additional opportunities for personal growth, self-discipline, skill development, cooperation with others, creativity, and fun. Participation in the Athletic Program is intended to foster positive habits and attitudes that will serve as a basis for students to lead productive lives. Activities at Audubon Charter School are considered extra, voluntary programs that complement the regular curriculum offered to students. Through participation in these activities, each student may be better prepared for life by learning lessons not readily available in the classroom.

### **GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

#### **Athletics**

Students who choose to participate on any interscholastic team must comply with the following General Eligibility requirements:

- **Enrollment**-Students must be full-time students of Audubon Charter School.
- **Medical Release**- Student must have an Official Medical Physical Form completed by Physician before practice and competing in any sport.
- **Athletic Equipment Checkout Card**-Each student must have an Athletic Equipment Checkout Card on file with his/her team coach.
- **Parent and Student Activities Code Contract**-This contract obligates the student and parent to comply with the rules as set forth in this Activities Code and the Team Standards as determined by the team coach. This contract is kept on file in the Athletic Director's office and is valid for one (1) school year for all Audubon Athletic school activities.
- **Athletic Fee**-Within one week of being selected to participate on a team the student must pay the appropriate fee as set by Audubon Athletics for participation on an athletic team. These fees are payable in the Main Office.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

**The athletes at Audubon are students first and foremost. Coaches will work with teachers in helping the student-athlete be successful in the classroom. If a student has a scheduled after-school tutorial, the student will not be penalized for being late or missing practice.**

**Students participating in athletics should anticipate the demands on their time and plan accordingly. Athletic participation should never be used to excuse incomplete assignments, missed tests, or tardiness. Student-athletes should be present and prepared for class regardless of game and practice schedules.**

- **Grades**-Middle school students are expected to earn passing grades in all their classes. If a student fails two or more classes, that student will be declared academically ineligible for competition and must follow the code procedures described in the code sections for ineligible students and for regaining academic eligibility. If a student fails only one class, that student will be placed on academic probation and must follow those provisions. The grades used for determining academic eligibility are those for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- **Academic Probation**-Students placed on academic probation are required to provide the Athletic Director with a weekly grade update from the teacher of the student's failed class until the next report card is issued. Failure to provide this update will result in the student being declared ineligible immediately or five school days.
- **Ineligibility**-Students declared academically ineligible must continue to meet and practice with the team for a period of not less than ten (10) school days, but ineligible students may not compete in games, contests, or performances during this time period.
- **Regaining eligibility**-A Student may regain his/her academic eligibility after ten (10) school days by providing to the Athletic Director written documentation from his/her teachers that the student is passing all courses. To remain academically eligible, the student must provide to the Athletic Director written documentation every week thereafter that demonstrates the student is passing all courses: This process will continue until the next report card is issued by the school. If at any time the student cannot provide written documentation that he/she is passing all courses, that student shall be rules ineligible for a minimum of five (5) school days until such time as the necessary written documentation from teachers is provided to the Athletic Director.

## ATTENDANCE

Student-athletes are expected to attend all classes or they will be declared ineligible to practice or compete on that day. A student-athlete MAY NOT regain eligibility to practice or compete until

a full day of school attendance has been confirmed. Exceptions are allowed for school-related field trips and activities, confirmed medical/legal appointments, funerals, and emergency situations as verified by a school administrator.

## **COMMUNITY CITIZENSHIP**

Students are expected to display appropriate citizenship in the community at all times. Any student who commits or is charged by legal authorities with committing a criminal act shall be referred to the Athletic Director for a determination of eligibility for continued participation in school athletics. The Athletic Director, in consultation with the school administration, shall rule the student ineligible if the student's conduct is detrimental to others, or if the student's presence adversely affects team/school morale, disrupts the orderly operation of the school, or interferes with the conduct and discipline of others.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

### **Student Athlete:**

Students are expected to display the highest standards of good sportsmanship at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct and /or rude, discourteous behavior that tarnishes the reputation of Audubon Charter School will jeopardize a student's continued eligibility. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to, disrespect for authority, the use of profanity and /or related gestures, involvement in any form of brawling, the theft or destruction of any property belonging to another person, school, or community, and /or the display of behavior that does not enhance the positive image of Audubon Charter School.

## **TEAM MEMBERSHIP**

Students who voluntarily join an athlete or activity team at Audubon Charter School are expected to abide by the following membership rule:

- **Name**-Students may not compete under any name other than their legal name as it appears on school records.
- **Appearance**-Students are expected to represent their school through appropriate dress and appearance, particularly when traveling to a competition, in accordance with the standards set by the coach and the Athletic Director.
- **Hygiene**-Students must demonstrate healthy habits of personal hygiene that do not endanger the well being of teammates.

- **Rules**-In addition to all school rules, students must abide by their specific team and activity rules as provided by their coaches and advisors.
- **Coach's Authority**-Team coaches and activity advisors have the authority to unilaterally suspend a student from a team or activity on the spot. These suspensions take effect immediately. Coaches and advisors are required to refer any team suspension lasting more than three (3) days to the Athletic Director; such suspensions are subject to the provisions of the Due Process procedures in the Activities Code.
- **Athletic Team Loyalty**-A student beginning in one sport cannot transfer to another sport, during the same season, until the original sport's season is complete, except with the mutual consent of the head coaches of the two sports involved. No student may compete in contests against another school in more than one sport during that sport's season without approval from the Athletic Director.

## **INJURY**

In every sport and activity, particularly the contact sports, there is a risk of injury to participating students. If an injury does occur, the student has a responsibility and an obligation to report the injury to coach or advisor immediately. The coach and staff must fill out and Injury Report form and return to Athletic Director immediately. If the injury requires professional medical attention, the student must return the MEDICAL RELEASE FORM to the team's coach or activity's advisor prior to resuming practice or competition.

## **AWARDS**

- **Certificate**- Awarded to all athletes in all sports who finish the season in good standing. Awards Ceremony will be conducted at the end of the school year. All Athletes must attend.

## ***EQUIPMENT***

All equipment used by athletic teams at Audubon is the property of the school. At the beginning of each season, the coach will be given an inventory of the equipment checked out to him/her.

The care of the equipment is the responsibility coach. After each practice and game, a careful check should be made to make sure that all equipment is accounted for. At the end of the season, all equipment should be returned within one week of the final game.

## ***UNIFORMS***

An athlete who loses a uniform must pay the replacement cost for that uniform. Uniforms are not to be altered or tailored by the athlete. Athletes are to wear the complete uniform provided by the school at games and game only. All uniforms are to be returned to the coach and accounted for within one week of the final game of the season.

## **DUE PROCESS & APPEALS PROCEDURE FOR ELIGIBILITY IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Due Process is a procedure, which the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. The procedure recognizes the rights of individuals since it outlines recourse if the student or parent/guardian believes that a wrong decision has been made. Outlined below is the procedure for Audubon Charter School Athletics, student and his/her parents/guardians to follow in appealing a decision relating to eligibility under the Activities Code.

- a. The Athletics Director shall inform, first via telephone, if possible, and then in writing by mail, the student and his/her parents/guardians (hereafter referred to as "grievant(s)") no later than three (3) school days after a ruling of ineligibility has been made. This letter shall formalize in writing the specific details related to 1) the violation; 2) the date of the violation; 3) the period of ineligibility; and 4) any other pertinent information.
- b. If the grievant(s) wishes to appeal the decision and/or action of the Athletics Director, the grievant(s) must formally appeal the decision in writing to the Assistant Principal within seven (7) school days from the first day the ineligibility takes effect.
- c. After an appeal has been received, the Assistant Principal shall establish a date for a hearing no later than seven (7) school days after receipt of the written appeal.
  - a. The hearing shall be held in the school administrator's office,
  - b. The grievant(s) may testify and present other evidence on the student's behalf.
  - c. A written summary of the hearing, including the decision, will be mailed to the grievant(s) by mail within three (3) school days of the hearing.
- d. If not satisfied with the decision of the Assistant Principal, the grievant(s) must request in writing hearing before the Principal of the student's school within seven (7) school days of receipt of the Assistant Principal's written decision.
  - a. The hearing shall be held by the Principal no later than seven (7) school days after receipt of the written appeal.
  - b. The grievant(s) may testify and present other evidence on the student's behalf.
  - c. A written summary of the hearing including the decision will be mailed to the grievant (s) by mail within three (3) school days of the hearing.
- e. If either the grievant(s) or the Athletic Director, School Administrator is dissatisfied, either party must request in writing a review by the FAME Board within seven (7) school days of receipt of the summary and decision of the hearing before the Principal. The appeal letter shall also include a copy of the original letter of ineligibility, the original appeal letter, and the official summaries of both hearings.
  - a. Should the FAME Board determine that a hearing is necessary, the hearing shall be conducted within seven (7) school days of receipt of the written appeal.
  - b. The grievant(s) may testify and present evidence.
  - c. The Principal may be present to testify and give evidence to substantiate his/her decision.
  - d. A written summary of the hearing, including the FAME Board decision, will be sent by certified mail the grievant(s), the Activities Board, and Principal within three (3) school days of the hearing.

**Audubon Charter School**

**ATHLETICS ACTIVITIES CODE CONTRACT**

*STUDENT NAME* \_\_\_\_\_ *GRADE* \_\_\_\_\_

As a student enrolled at Audubon Charter School, I understand that participation in my school's Athletics Program is a privilege that is granted by the school as long as I comply with the expectations set forth in the Activities Code and my coach/advisor. I understand that I will be declared ineligible if I violate the expectations for participation. By volunteering to participate in my school's Athletics' Program, I pledge to uphold the high standards of our school and team/activity. Furthermore, I pledge that I will take the expectations expressed in the Activities Code seriously and will report any violations that I am aware of so that the natural consequences will occur to those who have not upheld the school's standards.

By signing this contract, I am indicating that I have received a copy of the Activities Code, that I read the document, that I understand the expectations, and that I agree to abide by all the rules and expectations contained in the Activities Code.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*PARENT'S NAME* \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent/guardian to the student listed above, I am supportive of his/her decision to voluntarily participate in the Athletic Program. I understand that participation is considered a privilege that will be revoked if a student does not comply with the rules and expectations contained in the Activities Code.

By signing this contract, I am indicating that I have received a copy of the Activities Code, that I read the document, that I understand the expectations, and that I agree to abide by all the rules and expectations contained within the Activities Code.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# **Audubon Charter School**

## **Athletic Handbook**