



WOOTTON ATHLETIC GUIDELINES

PHILOSOPHY

Student-athletes are expected to represent themselves, their team and Wootton High School with honesty, integrity, and character whether it be academically, athletically or socially. Participation on any Wootton team is a privilege and not a right. Participation has many benefits and brings with it a responsibility to be positive and effective members of a team, Wootton Athletics, Montgomery County Public Schools and the community. Coaches, as part of their charge, will attempt to ensure that no conduct detrimental to their team will take place at any time during the year.

ILLEGAL DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

General health and athletic fitness is just one of the many areas of educating our student-athletes. In order for optimal performance and health, now and in the future, athletes must strive to be in top physical condition. Hydration, a balanced diet, and proper technique are areas covered extensively by Athletic Department personnel along with the avoidance of various illegal and legal substances. All students in the Wootton community are expected to refrain from the use of illegal alcohol, drugs, tobacco products and performance enhancing drugs. The consequences of violating this policy, given below, will be in addition to any consequences normally incurred for offenses on school property. This policy covers the entire year, regardless of a student's participation in a current extracurricular activity. The length of the consequences remaining at the conclusion of the school year will continue into the next school year following summer break.

- 1st Offense – If the student-athlete is verified to have used/in possession of any illegal substances listed above at any MCPS/Wootton event a suspension of 30 practice days will be assessed. This is in addition to any Administration issued penalty.
- 2nd Offense – If the student-athlete is verified to have used/in possession of any illegal substances listed above at any MCPS/Wootton event a suspension of 12 months from all Wootton athletic teams will be assessed. The student may not join any other Wootton sport during that period. This is in addition to any Administration issued penalty.

Any illegal activity student-athletes are involved in or associated with outside official MCPS/Wootton activities will be presented to the Wootton Coaches Review Board. The Board will be comprised of at least four current Wootton coaches, other than the sport represented, along with the Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director. The Board will review the information and make a recommendation to the Principal. If The Board determines a violation has occurred any recommendation would be at the discretion of The Board which may include and not be limited to one or all of the following: education, suspension or removal.

Students and parents must attend a reinstatement conference with an administrator, the Athletic Director, counselor, and coach(s) or sponsor(s) of any current activities in which the student wishes to participate.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please make sure to talk with your children about **all Internet sites**. Information posted (in the form of pictures or words) pertaining to alcohol, drugs, bullying/derogatory toward coaches or athletes, or anything else not suitable for a representative of Wootton High School can result in a student-athlete being removed from a team. Violations of the Social Media Policy will be directed to the Coaches Review Board. As you are already aware these sites are not as private as many claim. Discuss the privacy settings related to Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and various other social media sites. **NOTHING IS REALLY PRIVATE.**

Some examples would include photos of illegal alcohol consumption, discussions of drug use or sales, damaging accusations and rumors pertaining to another student, parent or staff member, photos of various inappropriate/illegal activities.

- 1st Offense – If the student-athlete is verified to have posted inappropriate material as stated above the coach will contact the parent(s) and may suspend or remove the student from the team. The information will be brought before the Wootton Coaches Review Board. This is in addition to any Administration issued penalty.
- 2nd Offense – If the student-athlete is verified to have posted inappropriate material as stated above a suspension of 12 months from all Wootton athletic teams will be assessed. The student may not join any other Wootton sport during that period. This is in addition to any Administration issued penalty.

ATTENDANCE

Academic progress is the main objective of Wootton High School. All students are expected to attend all of their classes each day. Attendance, punctuality, and participation in all courses is an important requirement. In order to participate in a practice or athletic contest, student-athletes must attend all of their classes, arrive to each class on-time, and participate. Official attendance records are kept by the Attendance Office and referred to daily by coaches and the Athletic Department. Exceptions to this policy occur when students are excused through the Attendance Office **and** the coach in advance of the start of the school day. Tardiness will be excused when a student provides their teacher with a valid signed agenda book.

Unexcused class absence(s), unexcused tardiness, and a pattern of absences will result in suspension or termination from a team. A student must attend a minimum of 4 classes a day to participate in practice or matches.

SUSPENSION AND DETENTION

Students who have out-of-school or in-school suspension may not participate in extracurricular activities from the time of the suspension until midnight of the final day of suspension unless otherwise specified by the principal of the school.

ECA FEE AND OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS

All students participating in sports must pay their Extracurricular Activities Fee to MCPS. Wootton does NOT collect the fee or forms as they must be paid directly to the ECA Office directly via mail, online, or hand delivered. Please keep a record of your successful payment each year.

All students must be clear of all financial obligations prior to beginning a sports season. Those obligations must be handled through the Wootton Financial Office. Please keep a record of your clearance.

*** DETACH THIS PAGE ONLY AND HAND TO THE COACH ONLY ***

PARENT AND STUDENT TEAM STANDARDS

The following standards are in effect for all extracurricular participants and parents. Additional standards may be established by the coach/sponsor.

1. Maintain academic standing and scholastic eligibility as established by Montgomery County Public Schools. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the regulations as outlined in the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and adhere to these standards.
2. Display proper behavior that will add to the good name of Thomas S. Wootton High School.
3. Maintain good school and community relationships.
4. Comply with all school rules and policies.
5. Display good sportsmanship at all times as well as adheres to the MCPS Sportsmanship Statement and Expectations.

Major or consistent violations of school rules and policy by extracurricular participants will result in removal from the team or activity. Infractions may be brought before a Wootton Coaches Review Board for consideration. Major violations of school rules and policies by spectators will result in removal from that event and possibly future Wootton athletic events.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREED TO THE ABOVE GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THOMAS S. WOOTTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

ATHLETE SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

ATHLETE'S PRINTED NAME: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT'S PRINTED NAME: _____

WOOTTON
PATRIOTS

Thomas S. Wootton High School
2100 Wootton Parkway
Rockville, Maryland 20850