

THE PANTHER HANDBOOK

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**BENTON SCHOOLS
THE PANTHER HANDBOOK**

PHILOSOPHY

Thank you for your desire to participate in interscholastic athletics in Benton. The major objective of our athletic program is to provide wholesome activities and opportunities for students to develop favorable habits and attitudes from their experiences, which will help them, succeed in life. We will strive to teach character and leadership traits as we prepare our athletes for the game of life. The athletic program will always be in conformity with the general objectives and policies of the school district. Our athletic program will function as a part of the whole curriculum and will strive for the development of well-rounded individuals capable of taking his or her place in a modern society. Our approach toward athletics is very simple. We will give our best effort and strive for excellence every time we take the field or court, whether for practice or a contest. We will always be prepared to compete. Our sports at Benton are highly competitive. We will make every effort to prepare ourselves physically, technically, and above all, mentally to allow us to play the very best we possibly can.

The chief purpose of the athletic program is to promote the fullest development of the abilities, talents, character and personality of each individual involved. In keeping with the philosophy of the school system, the athletic program will strive to train boys and girls to become active, well adjusted, responsible and useful members of our society.

The philosophy of the Benton School District's athletic program is to maintain a broad-based program that will afford all students with athletic interest an opportunity for safe participation in the sports of their choice.

At the Junior High level our primary goal is to give our athletes a positive experience. It is time to focus on participation and skill development of our athletes. This allows the students to have fun while learning the fundamentals of the sport. Winning is a secondary issue for our program at this level.

At the varsity level we play to win championships. Playing time is at the varsity head coach's discretion, driven by the intent to win. Varsity players are mature both athletically and mentally and their dedication and commitment to their team must supersede their personal desires. One of life's greatest lessons is the privilege of working for a purpose bigger than self.

Benton Schools Athletic Director
Scott Neathery
"Go Panthers"

OBJECTIVES OF THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

- (1) Promote loyalty and pride in our school and community.
- (2) Train athletes to become the best competitors on the field and the best citizens off the field.
- (3) Instill good habits, sound morals and a high standard of sportsmanship in the athletes.
- (4) Further instill in youngsters an appreciation for the optimum of proper rest, good eating habits and cleanliness.
- (5) Emphasize to athletes at all levels of competition the realization that athletic competition is a privilege that carries definite responsibilities with it. Some of these responsibilities include training, loyalty, eligibility, improvement, work, courage and perseverance.
- (6) Develop all programs so that the results will be those of unity, harmony and success. Participation will be emphasized and encouraged below the high school varsity level.
- (7) Instill the courage to face reality and meet all problems with patience, independence and self-reliance.
- (8) Create in all athletes a greater interest in the value of education.
- (9) Maintain and conduct the most successful athletic program in the state.

ATHLETIC POLICIES

Under our athletic philosophy, each head coach has the authority to create team rules that are specific to his or her sport; however, there are several rules and policies that are universal.

PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS

1. If an athlete misses classes the day of a contest, he/she cannot participate in that contest. Any exception would have to be approved by the principal.
2. Athletes will be encouraged by all coaches to participate in as many sports as their interests and abilities allow.
3. In-season sports have priority over all other sports.
4. If two sports have conflicting schedules, a sharing of the athlete's time will be agreed upon by the athlete, head coaches and athletic director.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES:

- (1) Coaches should be fair and consistent.
- (2) Our general philosophy is that we will attempt to help someone who makes a mistake. However, if this is repeated, the welfare of the team must take priority. This violation might mean breaking training rules, missing practice, poor attitude, etc.

- (3) Coaches have the right to discipline athletes on their individual teams, but should exercise sound judgment in administering specific penalties keeping in mind the welfare of the team and the individual.
- (4) No coach should dismiss an athlete from a team before discussing it with the head coach and athletic director allowing a 24-hour evaluation period in extenuating circumstances.
- (5) Coaches should regularly encourage students to attend practice and classes. Any athlete who does not practice should not play. However, medical reasons should be considered when holding athletes out of contests for missing practice.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OFFICIALS

Every game is controlled by officials. We must show respect for the judgment of these officials. Officials are human and may make mistakes, however, we feel that these are honest mistakes. We do not believe any official would deliberately help one team over another. We do believe that an official might lean toward a team who has players that always act like ladies/gentlemen. We will treat officials with the respect due them. Any disrespect toward an official will be subject to physical punishment, or game suspension.

MISSING PRACTICE

Team members are expected to be at all practices. A missed practice will be determined to be excused or unexcused. The determination on excused/unexcused miss is determined by the coach on an individual basis. Communication on a missed practice is critical. Athletes are required to contact their coach prior to a missed practice. Examples of an excused miss include a school function, student being sick, or attending a funeral.

1. Excused miss – Make up work only
2. Unexcused miss – Disciplinary action at the discretion of the coach plus make up work.
3. Tardy – Coaches discretion
4. An athlete that continually misses is subject to removal from the team.

QUITTING A SPORT

1. An athlete who quits one sport cannot participate in any other sport until the sport he/she quit is over.
2. If an athlete quits a sport before the season ends and circumstances warrant it, the head coach of that sport can give permission for the athlete to go to the next sport.
3. No coach shall ever attempt to influence an athlete to give up participation in one sport in order to devote more time to or concentration on another sport. Recruiting from another sport will not be tolerated.

LETTERING REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for earning a varsity award in sports at Benton High School are as follows:

Minimal standards for letter awards for: Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Softball, Soccer.

Complete the season and participate in a minimum of one-half of the quarters, innings, matches played.

Track- Complete the season and score a total of 3 points for the year or score in the conference meet.

Tennis- Complete the season and scores at least one point in conference meet.

Golf- Complete the season and represent the school in the conference meet as a top "five" player on the varsity team.

Cross Country- Complete the season and be in the top "ten" runners for the varsity team.

Exceptions may be made for the athlete who is injured during the season or shows marked improvement during the season and earns a place on the varsity team.

Exceptions are at the discretion of the coaching staff.

Awards: 1st year – Student may purchase a letter jacket

2nd year – Patch or Plaque

3rd year – Patch or Plaque

4th year – Patch or Plaque

ATHLETIC PHYSICALS

Student athletes will not be allowed to participate in practice or games without a documented current (within 1 year) physical examination by a licensed physician.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones can be a distraction on game day. Coaches may regulate cell phones in order to prevent a distraction. This may be accomplished in one of two ways: 1. Coach may take up cell phones from athletes. If a coach chooses this option, the coach is responsible for the phones. Coach must return phone at least 30 minutes from arriving back at school. 2. Give athlete a set time for all phones to be silenced and put away. Phones are not to be used until after the contest. If the athlete cannot follow this guideline, coach may take up cell phone and return at least 30 minutes from arriving back at school. Failure to comply with this policy may result in game suspensions

CYBER BULLYING

Cyber bullying is usually defined as sending or posting "cruel, vicious, and sometimes threatening messages" on the internet. Act 115, 2007: Cyber Bullying is an electronic act whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. Student Athletes shall not misuse internet venues, such as *Myspace* and *Facebook*, to reflect in a negative manner on a player, team, or the school. Should this occur, the coach will consider each situation on an individual basis and assign any consequences he/she deems necessary.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is not to be used to criticize or critique players, coaches, administrators, or teacher of Benton Public Schools or any of its athletic teams. Athletes must remember that they are accountable for their electronic communications. Any negative social media posting will fall under the scope of conduct detrimental to the team and could result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the team.

SUSPENSION

In school suspension/Out of school suspension: Student Athletes may neither practice nor play games during the time of suspension or after school hours on the day of the suspension.

ATHLETIC INJURIES

Any injury, large or small, should be reported to the coach immediately. Any injury not requiring a doctor's care will be assessed by the coach in charge and/or athletic trainer in order to determine the athlete's ability to play or practice. Ortho-Arkansas generously provides the services of an athletic trainer. The trainer will assess an injury and make recommendations to the student athlete and/or their parents/guardian. The trainer will also work with the rehabilitation of our athletes.

- (1) If at all possible, injured student athletes should be required to be at all workouts to watch.
- (2) Parents/Guardian will be notified if a player has to be taken to the doctor or emergency room.

SUMMER WORKOUTS

All student athletes are expected to maintain their physical conditioning throughout the summer. Coaches will inform student athletes of any special workout programs to be followed. Weight rooms and gyms will be open as scheduled throughout the summer.

INSURANCE

The school provides a secondary insurance policy, which will supplement the student athlete's family policy. The school policy alone may not cover all expenses incurred from a severe injury. The parent/guardian is responsible to file claim forms provided by the school. The supplemental accident claim form may be picked up in the Athletic Director's office or may be provided by the coach or trainer. Additionally, the Arkansas Activities Association provides catastrophic insurance coverage.

CARE OF EQUIPMENT

Equipment should be turned in immediately following the end of the season. A student athlete is financially responsible for all equipment checked out to him/her. The cost of destroyed/lost equipment will be at the student athlete's expense. A student athlete must treat school equipment as though it were his/her personal property. It should never be abused. If a student athlete is involved in the theft of school equipment, he/she could be dismissed from the team.

BENTON ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT TRIP GUIDELINES

Inasmuch as the administration and teaching staff of the Benton Schools will be assuming the supervisory responsibility of your son/daughter on a trip away from school, we feel it is important the student athlete and the parent/guardian's fully understand the rules which govern such trips. It is our feeling that a trip is a continuation of the school day and as such, student athletes participating on these trips are subject to the rules and regulations that govern our school while they are on campus. Because the student athletes will be representing Benton Schools, and because their conduct, behavior, and safety are our responsibility, we have established the following guidelines that must be adhered to while they are away from home.

1. The luggage and personal effects of the athlete may be inspected prior to departing and at any time during the trip.
2. Any student athlete found to be in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances will be left home if this determination is made prior to departure. Student athletes found in possession of controlled substances or alcohol or under the influence after departure are subject to immediate arrest and being sent home at their parent/guardian's expense.
3. Student athletes must observe all civil laws and regulations. Apprehension by law enforcement agencies leading to a substantiated charge will not be the responsibility of Benton Schools.

4. If the trip requires overnight lodging, student athletes will not disturb other guests at the lodging and will abide by all rules and directives issued by the group advisor, chaperones, or coaches.
5. In the event a student athlete is injured or becomes ill while on the trip, the coach will immediately seek medical attention and contact his/her parents/guardians as soon as possible.
6. Student athletes will be expected to know and observe the time and location of all departures. The group will not be delayed by the tardiness of individuals.
7. Student athletes must dress properly on trips, inappropriate dress will not be allowed.
8. All student athletes must travel and return with the team except for the following conditions:
 - a. Riding home with parents (Only parents of student)
 - b. Parents going to another destination after the game
 - c. Spending the night
 - d. Emergency situation

Any student athlete caught in an infraction of the above listed rules may be sent home at the parent's expense and will be subject to further disciplinary action by the school.

BEHAVIOR AND CITIZENSHIP

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed by many and it is important that an athlete's behavior be above reproach. Appearance, expression and actions always influence people's opinions of the athletes as well as the sport. Once you have volunteered to be a member of a squad, you have made the choice to uphold certain standards expected of all athletes in this community. Be proud to be an athlete, for it is a privilege, not a right. The way an athlete acts and looks is of great importance; thus proper dress, appearance, grooming and personal cleanliness are expected. Athletes should be leaders and fellow students should respect and follow them. Proper dress and appearance will be established by the coach and is a continual process.

You should never use tobacco, alcohol or drugs; it has been proven that athletes that refrain from the use of these substances have a better performance level than those that use them. Besides being illegal, research clearly states that the use of tobacco, alcohol and any type of mood modifying substance produces harmful effects on the human organism. If you wish to be a Panther, you must make the choices that will have a positive effect on you and your team.

PARENT / COACH RELATIONSHIPS

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone. Parents have the right to know, and understand, the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place. Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

- 1) Coach's philosophy.
- 2) Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
- 3) Locations and times of practices and contests.
- 4) Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
- 5) Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- 1) Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
- 2) Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
- 3) Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times discussion with the coach is encouraged. Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- 1) The mental and physical treatment of your child.
- 2) What your child needs to do to improve.
- 3) Concerns about your child's behavior. It is very difficult to accept your child is not playing as much as you may hope.

Coaches' make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach. Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

- 1) How much playing time each athlete is getting.
- 2) Team strategy.
- 3) Play calling.
- 4) Any situation that deals with other student-athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:

- 1) Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.
- 2) Contact the coach who had direct supervision of the athlete. If satisfactory resolution of the complaint is not made, then
- 3) Contact the athletic director of the Benton School District. If satisfactory resolution of the complaint is not made, then
- 4) Contact the Building Principal of the School. If satisfactory resolution of the complaint is not made, then
- 5) Contact the Superintendent of the Benton School District.

Parent's Role

Being the parent of an athlete can be a great experience. Parent's participation with their son or daughter should be an enjoyable activity. The support of parents is very important to the athlete, the school and the community. To make this experience the most rewarding for all concerned, the following are some suggestions on being a supportive parent.

1. **Be Positive-** Being on a school team is quite an accomplishment. Do not let playing time dictate the athlete's happiness. Celebrate the fact he/she was good enough to make the team. When things are not going well for your son/daughter or for the team is when parents need to be most positive and supportive.
2. **Be supportive of coaching staff in front of your son/daughter-** Nothing can injure teamwork faster than parents or athletes doubting the capabilities of their coaches. A negative comment from a parent can destroy the athlete/coach relationship that has taken months to establish. If you have a concern, follow the Benton communication process. Our staff will listen, appreciate your confidentiality and give you a timely response.
3. **Be a part of a parent network-** Whether you are part of a booster club or not, very special relationships can be fostered over the careers of athletes by socializing with other parents. Parents need support too! Be positive with each other and do not hesitate to remind each other about remaining positive at all times.
4. **Booster parents-** We appreciate the fact that you are an active booster parent and supportive of our total program. Don't feel obligated to donate funds or equipment to our athletic program in order for it to be successful. Your attendance at our sporting events and encouraging other fans to come and watch our athletic teams perform would be of tremendous support.

5. **Winning and losing-** It shall be our staff's goal to pursue excellence in the school's athletic program through motivating students to achieve to the best of their ability. Winning under a positive goal-oriented environment can be a natural and enjoyable outgrowth of this attitude. Everyone enjoys a well-played victory, but a "Winning is Everything" philosophy cannot become the controlling force.
6. **College Scholarships-** Having lofty expectations for our children is a normal and healthy goal. In striving for these expectations, we must also be realistic. Not everyone can receive a college scholarship, nor should your child's athletic success be measured by the number of offers he or she receives. Allow your child to play for the love of the game, and in the end, they will not be disappointed.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES AND S.I.P. INFORMATION

The athletic department encourages the academic excellence of all athletes. The eligibility requirements are those set forth by the Arkansas Activities Association, and the State Department of Education. No student will be allowed to try-out, participate, or be a manager unless they meet all eligibility requirements.

ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION - STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- High School Level

In order for a student to participate in athletics or other extracurricular activities that involve competition in interscholastic activities, the student must meet the requirements set forth in (a) residency, (b) age, (c) enrollment, and (d) scholarship. A student must have earned a minimum grade point average of 2.0 the previous semester (or term).

If a student has not earned a minimum of a 2.0 GPA the previous term, the student must participate in our supplemental instruction program for at least 100 minutes each Thursday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:10 p.m. All students in the SIP program will have one semester to improve their GPA a minimum of one tenth of a point to maintain eligibility for a second consecutive semester. The maximum length of involvement in SIP is two consecutive semesters. If a student earns a GPA of 2.0 and leaves the SIP, that student may later return to the SIP for a maximum of two semesters if the GPA drops below 2.0.

To remain eligible for the present term, the student

- (1) Cannot have any unexcused absences from the after school supplemental instruction program,
- (2) Cannot have any unexcused absences from any class during the term,

- (3) Can have no school disciplinary action, or
- (4) Have no criminal conviction.

If a student is guilty of any of the above items, he/she

- (1) Becomes immediately ineligible for the current term and
- (2) Must remain in the after school class to be eligible for the next term.

ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION -STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

-Junior High Level

On the junior high level, students in seventh grade and first-semester eight-graders automatically qualify for activities. Second semester eighth-graders and first semester ninth graders must successful pass four academic courses the previous semester, three of which shall be core curriculum areas (math, science, English, social studies) approved by ADE. First semester ninth-graders must pass four academic classes to be eligible second semester of the ninth grade. Ninth grade students must meet senior high academic eligibility by the end of second semester in order to be eligible for the fall of their tenth grade year.

CREDIT FOR ATHLETICS

A half credit of Physical Education is given for participation in athletics per semester. Participation in athletics under a certified Physical Education instructor will satisfy the ½ credit required by the State Department for graduation. Participation under a non-certified Physical Education instructor may count as local elective credit, but that athlete must take ½ credit of Physical Education under a certified teacher.

ATHLETIC PASSES

All student athletes are eligible to purchase an Athletic Pass per year from the Benton Schools Athletic Department provided they are participating in a sport. The Athletic Pass will admit that student athlete to all home athletic events during that school year. If a student athlete gets caught giving/loaning their Athletic Pass to another student, that student athlete loses all privileges for purchasing a pass.

TICKET INFORMATION

***Basketball, Baseball, Volleyball, Soccer, Softball, and Football Season passes will be available and prices will depend on the number of home games played each year.**

RESERVED SEATING

Reserved/Chair-back seating is available for BHS Football and BHS Basketball. Price varies according to number of home games each year.

Please call the athletic department for more information 501-776-5718.

BENTON SCHOOLS DRUG TESTING POLICY

Approved 8/25/2014

4.71- REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC/SPIRIT GROUPS/BAND

The Benton School Board hereby adopts a drug screening policy for all athletic/spirit groups/band in grades 8-12 who represent the Benton Public Schools.

The board believes that the policy is necessary for the health and safety of the individuals involved.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this program are to:

1. Provide students an avenue to combat drug and alcohol use by arming them with a well-developed, firm, and consistent policy that discourages the use of illicit drugs and alcohol.
2. Provide drug education programs for students who test positive for drug use.
3. Ensure the health and safety of participating students during performances.
4. Allow student participants an opportunity to say "no" to drugs.
5. Provide a deterrent to drug use for all participating students in athletic/spirit groups/band.
6. Help maintain a drug-free school environment.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are for the purposes of the drug-testing program in this policy.

1. Testing regime: the random scheduling of drug test dates.
2. GC/MS: Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy; a scientific process to identify specific chemical compounds. A molecular fingerprint is obtained that identifies a chemical compound with 100 percent accuracy.
3. DOT: Department of Transportation
4. Chain of Custody Form: A preprinted form provided by the testing laboratory that records all contact with the provided specimen.
5. Participating students: All students in grades 8-12 who practice or participate in athletic/spirit groups/band.

DRUGS ELIGIBLE FOR TESTING

The drugs eligible for testing may include but are not limited to the following:

Amphetamines	Barbiturates	Benzodiazepine
Phencyclidine	Cocaine	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates	Propoxyphene
Alcohol		

THE PLAN

The drug testing program for participating students shall be administered as follows:

1. All student participants will be required to have an Informed Consent Form signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian before the student will be eligible to practice or participate in any athletic/spirit group/band activities, including off season training. This form shall be filed with the Athletic Director.
2. Informed Consent Forms will remain valid until a parent/guardian requests removal in writing or until the student no longer participates in athletic/spirit group/band activities. Any student returning to athletic/spirit groups/band will be required to have a current Informed Consent Form on file.
3. All student participants' names will be placed in a testing pool. Participants shall be subject to random urinalysis testing throughout the school year.
4. The vendor shall arrange with the Athletic Director a day and time to do the collection of specimens.
5. Participating students selected for random testing shall be chosen from a pool that includes all participating students. For each testing regime a computer program shall be used to randomly select:
 - a. A minimum of 10 % students from the junior high pool.
 - b. A minimum of 10 % students from the high school pool.
6. After student names are drawn, they will be placed back into the pool.
7. Participating students shall be required to provide a urine sample for the designated laboratory supervisor. Testing shall be administered by qualified laboratory personnel and professional staff.
8. Any eligible participating student selected randomly for testing who is not in school on the day of the testing shall be tested at the next testing regime.
9. Any student failing to produce an adequate specimen of urine will be subject to retesting at the next testing regime.
10. Students not able to produce an adequate urine specimen at the next testing shall be considered as refusing to test and subject to this policy's sanctions.
11. No participating student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for alcohol, illegal drugs or banned substances.

12. The results of drug tests, pursuant to this policy, shall not be documented in any student's academic record. Information regarding the results of drug tests shall not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent, legal guardian, or custodian shall be notified per subpoena requirements before response is made by the Superintendent/or designee to the extent permitted by such subpoena or legal process.

TESTING PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOL

An independent laboratory shall be employed to use an accepted immunological urinalysis screening procedure. All drugs detected by the screen shall be confirmed by MS/GC at a DOT-certified laboratory before being reported. Testing procedures shall be as follows:

1. The vendor shall send qualified collectors to the school who shall oversee the collection of all specimens as outlined under the heading VENDOR REQUIREMENTS.
2. All specimens shall be identified by the student's social security number or student numbers and shall be taken to an independent lab for processing by lab personnel.
3. All positive screenings shall be confirmed by the participating student's admission and/or an additional test from a split specimen, which may include Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry testing by an independent laboratory.
4. The testing lab shall submit final test results to the Athletic Director who shall notify the parent/guardian and the appropriate principal and coach of any positive test result or of any sample that has a presence of alcohol or an illegal substance.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All drug test results are considered confidential information and shall be handled according to the following guidelines:

1. A strict chain of custody shall be enforced regarding the collection and coding of specimen samples to ensure total confidentiality and proper identification.
2. Those persons having results reported to them as set forth by this policy must sign a confidentiality statement.
3. Positive test results shall be divulged only to the student, principal, parent/guardian, coach, and Superintendent. The parent/guardian shall also be notified of any sample that has a presence of an illegal substance.
4. When the student is no longer in school or his or her final year of eligibility to participate in extracurricular programs has expired, all test results shall be destroyed.

SANCTIONS FOR POSITIVE TESTING

The following sanctions shall be imposed for any student testing positive to a drug test:

1. For the first positive test result:
 - a. The parent/guardian shall be notified and shall be requested to attend a conference to discuss the student's drug testing result.
 - b. Retesting shall be required at each subsequent random testing regime for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of receipt of the test result.
2. For the second positive test result within any two consecutive calendar years:
 - a. The parent/guardian shall receive notification and shall be requested to attend a conference to discuss the student's drug test results. This conference shall also include the student, principal, and the student's coach/director.
 - b. Upon receiving notice by the proper school official, the student shall immediately be suspended from practices, contests and/or activities in all competitive athletic/spirit group/band activities for a minimum of 30 calendar days. In the event a participating student's sanctions cannot be completed before the end of school year, the participating student shall complete his or her sanctions the following school year.
 - c. A letter of intent to remain in any athletic/spirit group/band activities shall be signed by the student and parent/guardian.
 - d. For reinstatement into athletic/spirit group/band activities, participating students shall:
 1. Be retested at the end of the 30-day suspension at the parent's/guardian's expense.
 2. Receive a negative test result.
 3. Complete a school drug counseling program approved by the Athletic Director.
 4. Have verification of all sanction requirements by the Athletic Director.
 - e. Retesting shall be required at each subsequent random testing regime for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of receipt of the test result.
3. For the third positive test result within any two consecutive calendar years:
 - a. The parent/guardian shall receive notification and shall be requested to attend a conference to discuss the student's drug test results. This conference shall also include the student, principal, and the student's coach/director.
 - b. Upon receiving notice by the proper school official, the student shall

immediately be suspended from practices, contests and/or activities in all competitive extracurricular athletic/spirit group/band activities for one calendar year.

- c. A letter of intent to remain in any athletic/spirit group/band activity shall be signed by the student and parent/guardian.
- d. For reinstatement into athletic/spirit group/band activities, participating students shall:
 - 1. Participate in all testing regimes for a minimum of one year.
 - 2. Receive a negative test result at each testing.
- e. Any positive results during suspension shall require a conference with the student, parent/guardian, principal, and the student's director or sponsor, to establish appropriate action.

REFUSAL TO TEST

Students refusing to be tested shall not be permitted to represent the District in any athletic/spirit group/band activity. After a 30-day waiting period, the student may be reinstated for participation if:

- 1. The student is tested at the end of the 30-day suspension at the parent's guardian expense by an independent laboratory.
- 2. A negative test result is received.

FERPA

Benton School District will adhere to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

APPEAL PROCESS

Any student who has tested positive or the student's parents or guardians may appeal the test by informing the Athletic Director within 24 hours of notice of the positive test result. The student and parent shall be entitled to present any evidence they desire to defend the charge of violation of this policy prior to implementation of sanctions. The Athletic Director may require written documentation of any evidence the student may wish to present that may have affected the test result. Failure to present written documentation to support the student's defense of the case shall result in the student being subject to the sanctions provided in this procedure for a positive test result. Upon request by the student's parents or guardians, further laboratory analysis may be conducted with the student's remaining urine specimen preserved by the testing laboratory at the student's expense. The retest must be performed by a qualified laboratory that meets the lab requirements contained in this drug testing policy.

Consequence Regarding the Involvement of Alcohol or Controlled Substances During School or School Activities

Disciplinary action taken toward student athletes who are involved with alcohol or controlled substances at school or while participating in school activities:

A. First violation: The student athlete will be disciplined by the school (per student handbook). When the student athlete returns, he/she will be suspended from 40% of games or activities scheduled. To become eligible, the student athlete must have a negative drug screening test administered under school conditions.

B. Second violation: The student athlete will be disciplined by the school (per student handbook). The student athlete will not be allowed to participate in any athletic/spirit group for the remainder of the school calendar year. To become eligible for the next school year, student athletes must have a negative drug screening test administered under school conditions.

Consequence Regarding the Involvement alcohol or Controlled Substances Away from School or School Activities

Disciplinary action taken toward student athletes who are involved with alcohol or controlled substances away from school or school activities:

- A. First violation: The student athlete will be suspended from 20% of the games or activities scheduled. Parents will be notified. There must be substantial proof of wrong doings as determined by the Athletic Director. The student athlete will be required to pass a drug test administered by the school nurse. Also, the student athlete will get counseling which will be selected by the Athletic Director.
- B. Second Violation: The student athlete will be suspended from 50% of games or activities scheduled. Parents will be notified. There must be substantial proof of wrong doings as determined by the Athletic Director. Student athletes will also be required to pass a drug test administered by the school nurse and attend an alcohol/drug abuse awareness program approved by the Athletic Director.
- C. Third Violation: The student athlete will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. To become eligible for the next school year, student athletes must have a negative screening test administered under school conditions.

In all cases of suspensions from participation, if the student athlete is participating in a sport in-season, the suspension will take place immediately. If a one sport student athlete is not in-season, the suspension will begin at the start of his/her next season. If the student athlete participates in more than one sport or activity, and the number of games remaining is under the percentage of games suspended, the suspension will carry over to the next sport. If another violation occurs during the second sport/activity season, this would count as their second violation.

If a student athlete loses eligibility due to a controlled substance violation, to become eligible for the next school year, the student athlete must have a negative drug screening test administered under school conditions. The student athlete may participate in tryouts for the following school calendar year during his/her suspension but must have negative drug screening results prior to trying out.

Consent Form

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO THE COACH

_____ Date

_____ Student Athlete's Last Name (Please Print)

_____ First Name (Please Print)

_____ Grade
2016-17

_____ Student Athlete's Signature

_____ Parent's Name (Please print) Parent's Signature

1. We hereby give consent for the above named student athlete to compete in approved sports and go with the coach on any approved trips.
2. We give consent, in case an accident or injury occurs, for the coaches to secure treatment at the best facilities available to them.
3. We have received an Athletic Handbook and agree to abide by all rules and regulations.
4. We understand that there is a chance a participant can be injured. It is understood that the school assumes no responsibility in case an accident or injury occurs.

My student is allergic to: _____

My student's most recent tetanus shot (if known) _____

Please list all pre-existing illnesses or injuries that we should be aware of:

Please list all medications your student athlete takes on a regular basis:

Parent or Guardian's Phone

Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Student Insurance Information

1. Under whose name is student listed: _____
2. Insurance Company: _____
3. Group Number: _____

Emergency Contact (other than parent):

Name: _____ Number _____