

FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL
EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION POLICY
2005-2006
“Rebel Pride”

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right.

In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at Fairfax High School, a student MUST:

- ❖ **BE A GOOD CITIZEN** (Any student who is under penalty of suspension, or whose conduct is such as to reflect poorly upon Fairfax High School or upon the extracurricular activity in which he or she participates, shall not satisfy the good citizenship requirement.)
- ❖ **SERVE AS A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL**
- ❖ **ABIDE BY ALL SCHOOL RULES**
- ❖ **COMPLY WITH ALL COUNTY, FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS**

BACKGROUND

The Fairfax High School **Extracurricular Participation Policy** was established through the collaborative efforts of coaches, sponsors, students, parents, and administrators. The **Extracurricular Participation Policy** was developed and adopted as a means of establishing minimum standards of conduct for eligibility for student participation in extracurricular activities. The **Extracurricular Participation Policy** is not intended to, and shall in no event be construed as, diminishing the standards of clubs and/or teams that have adopted their own written regulations that are more stringent than those contained in this Policy.

PARTICIPANT’S PLEDGE

Each student who wishes to participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by Fairfax High School must read and sign, and have their parent or guardian read and sign, the document entitled “Participant’s Pledge”. The “Participant’s Pledge” contains the student’s representation to the school system that he or she will abide by the provisions of the Participation Policy at all times. The Pledge applies during school and non-school hours and at school sponsored and non-school related events.

STUDENT STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Virginia High School League: Students must meet all eligibility requirements, as established by the **Virginia High School League**.

Substance Abuse: Students selected to participate in extracurricular activities may not use alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs at any time. Students may not participate in extracurricular activities for a specified period of time if they violate Fairfax County Public Schools’ policy pertaining to the use of alcohol, tobacco or any illegal drug (**See Regulation 2150**). If the school administration determines that a student who is participating in, or wishes to participate in, extracurricular activities has consumed alcohol or used tobacco or illegal drugs, the student may be determined to be ineligible to participate in such activities. If it is determined that a student has used steroids, the student is subject to consequences under Virginia Code effective July 1, 2005, which, in summary, bans students from activities for a 2 year period.

Hazing: Fairfax High School has a no tolerance policy with regard to hazing. Any incident of hazing will be dealt with according to the Fairfax County Public Schools Student Responsibilities and Rights Booklet (Regulation 2601.16P) and may result in ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

Team/Club Rules: Each coach/sponsor will establish team/club rules. Team/club rules will be distributed and discussed with parents and participants prior to the beginning of the activity. Students are required to comply with team/club rules and may forfeit their eligibility as a consequence of any noncompliance.

School Attendance: Unless otherwise excused in accordance with school rules, students must attend all scheduled classes on the day of a competition/activity in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities on that day. A coach/sponsor may make exceptions to this standard with the prior approval of the Director of Student Activities.

Detention and/or ALP: Students assigned detention and or ALP (in-school suspension) by teachers and/or administrators must report the detention and/or ALP to the coach or sponsor. The coach/sponsor will determine whether any additional action shall be taken.

Suspension: Students suspended from school will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities while on suspension and, at the discretion of the coach/sponsor/DSA may be declared ineligible to participate further in the team/activity depending upon the grounds for the suspension.

Arrest for Misdemeanor or Felony: School officials may suspend any student from participation in extracurricular activities who has been charged with a misdemeanor or felony involving violence, weapons, alcohol and/or substance abuse pending disposition of the charges. The student must report the incident to the coach/sponsor. The coach/sponsor will present the facts as known to the school administrator responsible for determining eligibility for continued participation.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF PARTICIPATION POLICY

Violations of the standards of conduct set for the in the Extracurricular Participation Policy generally shall result in the following actions:***

A: VHSL –Athletics & Non-Athletics

First Offense: Loss of participation for a period of at least two weeks or at least 20% of the playing season. In certain cases, the student may be dismissed from the team/activity for the remainder of the sports' season/activity period. If so, a conference will be held with the athlete, parent/legal guardian, DSA and coach to review the "Participation Policy", the offense, and the subsequent action.

Second Offense: Dismissal from the team/activity for the remainder of the sports' season/activity period and suspension from all school activities for 30 calendar days.

B: FHS Club Activities

First Offense: Loss of participation for a period of at least two weeks or at least 20% of meetings, activities, competitions.

Second Offense: Dismissal from the club/activity for the remainder of the school year and suspension from all school activities for 30 calendar days.

A student's violation of any provision of this Extracurricular Participation Policy may result in: (1) a determination that such student is not longer eligible to participate in any or all extracurricular activities in accordance with the table set forth above; or (2) any other lesser sanction with regard to such participation as may be deemed appropriate under the circumstances. Any such determination of ineligibility or other lesser sanction with regard to participation in extracurricular activities **shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of**, any disciplinary action on the part of the school system and/or public law enforcement with regard to any such misconduct.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

The coach/sponsor, in consultation with the Director of Student Activities, may suspend students from activities. Prior to making this determination and imposing any exclusionary or other, lesser, consequence, the coach or school authorities shall give the student the right to explain his or her version of the alleged misconduct. In the case of conduct alleged to involve substance abuse, the student, with the permission of his or her parent or legal guardian, may submit voluntarily to an appropriate drug test (if applicable). Students and/or their parents/legal guardians may appeal actions taken pursuant to this policy within two days of the initial ruling to the Principal. **The Principal's decision will be final; decisions rendered under this Policy may not be appealed beyond the Principal.** The school administration will send a written decision the parent/guardian within two days of the appeal hearing setting for the determination made and the consequences to be imposed.

*** The minimum thirty (30) -calendar day suspensions from all school activities include the try-out period for another sport/activity. Consequently, if the second offense occurs at the end of a competition/event performance and the penalty time frame carries into the next season/activity, the individual relinquishes the opportunity to tryout/participate for that next sport season/activity as well. Summer vacation does not count towards the 30 calendar day suspension from all school activities unless the student is thereby rendered ineligible to participate in a school activity which takes place during summer vacation (i.e. the SGA Leadership Retreat); provided that the student otherwise intended and was eligible to participate in such activity.

2005-2006 FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

American Technology Honor Society
Amnesty International
Art Club/Art Honor Society
Badminton Club
Band
Cartooning Club
Chess Club
Choral Department
Class of '06
Class of '07
Class of '08
Class of '09
Crew Club
College Partnership
Colorguard/ Winterguard
Dhamaka
Dance Team
Debate
DECA
Destiny Step Team
E V Club/ Electric Car
Fairfacts

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)
Film Society
Forensics Team
French Club /French Honor Society
Future Business Leaders of America
Gay/Straight Alliance
German Club/German Honor Society
Hispanic Forum
Horticulture Club
International Club
It's Academic
Japanese Animation Club
Jazz Band
Junior Math Team
Key Club
Korean Club
Korean Honor Society
Latin Club/Latin Honor Society
Latino United Student Association
Math Honor Society
Math Team (Varsity)
Matrix

Model United Nations
Muslim Student Association
National Business Honor Society
National Honor Society
Orchestra
Partner's Club
Peer Helpers
Peer Mediation
Photography Club
Racquetball Club
SAC (Student Advisory Council)
Safety Council SADD Organization
SCAT
Science Club
Science Honor Society
Spanish Honor Society
Sports Medicine
Student Government Association
Tai Chi Club
Thespians
Unity
Sampler Yearboo

PARTICIPANT'S PLEDGE

2005-2006

STUDENT INFORMATION:

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME _____ M.I. _____
(Print) (Print)

GENERAL:

Each student who participates in extracurricular activities must sign this "Participant's Pledge" as a prerequisite of his/her participation. The student's signature on the pledge signifies the commitment to abide by the conditions of the Fairfax High School Extracurricular Participation Policy and to refrain at all times from using alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs. The parent's signature on the pledge signifies that the parent has read and understands the pledge. The signed Participant's Pledge will remain on file in the Activities Office until the conclusion of the 2005-2006 school year.

PLEDGE:

AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AT FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL, I PLEDGE AT ALL TIMES:

- 1) TO REFRAIN FROM USING ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, STEROIDS AND ILLEGAL DRUGS
- 2) TO EXHIBIT AND DEMONSTRATE GOOD CITIZENSHIP BY COMPLYING WITH ALL SCHOOL SYSTEM RULES AND REGULATIONS AND OBEYING ALL APPLICABLE LAWS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THE **FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION POLICY AND/OR FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS BOOKLET (REGULATION 2601.16P)** WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND POSSIBLE EXCLUSION FROM EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (WITH THE RIGHT TO APPEAL TO THE PRINCIPAL).

Section A: To be completed by Student

I have read and understand the Extracurricular Participation Policy and the Participant's Pledge set forth above and I agree to be bound by the terms thereof.

Student's Signature Date Print Name

Section B: To be completed by Parent/Guardian

I have read and understand the Extracurricular Participation Policy and the Participant's Pledge set forth above.

I UNDERSTAND THAT MY SIGNATURE ON THIS DOCUMENT ALLOWS MY SON/DAUGHTER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITY LISTED IN THE FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK UNLESS I HAVE NOTIFIED THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE IN WRITING OF AN EXCEPTION.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date Print Name

OPT-OUT Form: _____ (student name)

By signing here, I am requesting that my student be allowed to Opt Out of the following extracurricular activity/club for the 2005-2006 school year: (See page 2 for listing of all clubs/activities).

Club/Activity Club/Activity

Parent/Guardian Signature