

**2018-2019
Athletic Policy**

Dear Parents,

This is our athletic policy for 2018-2019 school year. This policy is provided to you to keep the athlete and his or her parent informed of the rules and expectations of the athletic department. This policy also includes possible consequences if the athletic policy is violated.

We are requiring all Junior High and High School athletes return the form at the bottom of this letter (signed and dated) to their head coach before they can participate in any competition.

Parents, it is not our intention to prevent anyone from competing in athletics, but we must set a standard for the conduct we expect from our athletes. We appreciate your support and cooperation concerning your child's participation in athletics and look forward to a great year. Please be aware of our "open door" policy if you have any questions or concerns. It is recommended that you contact the coach that is working with your child, and then if necessary, the head coach of that sport, then the Athletic Director, and then the Principal.

Thank you for your help and support. We truly believe that we are working with the best children in the state of Texas. We hope athletics will always be an enjoyable part of your child's life.

Jody Guy

PARENTAL VERIFICATION STATEMENT

Your signature will verify that you have received and have read the Athletic Policy and acknowledge the responsibilities outline therein.

Grade
(2018/2019)

Name of Student

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

ATHLETIC POLICY

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for athletics, students must meet all standards set forth by the Texas Education Agency, UIL, local board policies, and athletic policies.

CONDUCT

The same rules of conduct, dress, language, and respect that apply from the student handbook in a regular classroom setting will apply to the athletic setting. Athletes are also held responsible for any additional rules of conduct established by the athletic department to maintain order and safety. Failure to comply may result in corporal punishment, conditional suspension, or permanent suspension from the program depending on the severity of the case and the circumstances surrounding it.

QUITTING

Quitting is an intolerable habit to acquire. A quitter may lose the privilege of participating in athletics. An athlete may quit a sport and remain in the program if that athlete quits the sport before a cut off date. Obviously extenuating circumstances will be dealt with separately. Each head coach will set a date for an athlete to decide if a particular sport is for him or her. This date must be approved by the Athletic Director. The athlete may leave that sport and go to another sport if they do so before the cut off date. If they quit after the cut off date they are put on permanent suspension and will not be allowed to participate in any sport until that sports comes around the following year.

EQUIPMENT

The athlete will utilize the best possible equipment. Once the athlete has been issued equipment, it becomes his or her responsibility. Loss of equipment becomes the athlete's financial obligation. Theft of equipment from the school, from a teammate, or from a coach will be dealt with in a severe manner, possibly leading to the expulsion from the program. Dress should be very professional both in uniform and out. Everyone will wear his or her uniform in the same manner, no one will dress differently.

TRAINING RULES

The use of alcohol, tobacco, and dangerous or illegal drugs is not acceptable. Participation in activities that may be harmful or high risk to injury will be dealt with by communicating with the athlete and his or her parent. Non school sports that interfere with UIL sports must go through the AD. Each case will be decided on its merits. The coach of his or her team when deemed necessary to maintain safety and fitness may set a curfew. An athlete in violation of training rules during the regular school year is subject to punishment.

ALCOHOL/DRUG/STEROID POLICY

- 1st Offense – Suspension from all competition for 7 calendar days & 5 hrs community service
 - 2nd Offense – Suspension from all competition for 14 calendar days & 10 hrs community service
 - 3rd Offense – Suspension from all athletic competition for one calendar year & 20 hrs community service
- OHS Board policy states permanent removal after testing positive 3 times. .

This policy carries over from sport to sport and into the next season in which that athlete will be competing. This policy also carries over from year to year.

The policy is in effect by

1. Failing Drug Test
2. Issuance of a citation by law enforcement agencies.
3. Athlete's self-confession.

CONFLICTS

While a broad range of experiences is beneficial, the athlete that attempts to participate in several extra-curricular activities will undoubtedly be in a position of conflict in obligations. When such conflicts arise, the sponsors of such activities will get together to find a workable solution so that the student does not feel in the middle. If a solution cannot be arrived at, the principal will have to make a decision based on the following: 1. The event that ranks the highest will be the event in which the athlete competes in. 2. The relative contribution the student can make. 3. How long the event has been scheduled. 4. Talking with the parents.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed that decision the sponsor or coach will not penalize him or her in any way.

SUSPENDED/EXPELLED STUDENT ATHLETES

Athletes that have been expelled or placed on in-school suspension may not participate or play in a game during the time in which he or she has been disciplined by the principal in the above manner. Discipline according to this guide may also apply.

STUDENT ATHLETES INDICTED BY GRAND JURY

Athletes that have been indicted by a grand jury will be suspended from competition after receiving the indictment until the charges are dropped against the athlete. The rule will be consistent with the Texas High School Coaches Association Code of Ethics.

DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

Discipline may come in three different forms. **Corporal punishment** is one to three swats with a board witnessed in the principal's office or coach's office, or reasonable physical exertion relative to physical conditioning. **Conditional suspension** is suspension in which the athlete remains in the athletic program but does not participate in competitive events or games representing the school against other schools. The athlete will work out and participate in all other aspects. The suspension may range from one day to one year depending on the severity of the case and circumstances surrounding it. **Permanent suspension** is suspension in which the athlete is dismissed from the program. The only way he or she may return is by invitation of the coaching staff at which time he or she may have a clean slate. Readmittance to the program is not likely but in a few cases it may be warranted when a whole new attitude change is evident. Any head coach may suspend an athlete from the sport he or she is coaching. Only the athletic director may suspend an athlete from the total program. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director to see that discipline is consistent and that each case is handled with equal consideration based on similar cases. The

Athletic Director has the right to alter punishment when he or she feels that prior punishment was too strict or not strict enough to be effective.

ABSENCES

Any athlete that misses practice will be expected to make up that workout or conditioning in lieu of the workout, except for participation in another school event or activity. Should a consistent pattern of missed practices occur permanent suspension is inevitable. An athlete that missed a competitive event for reasons other than illness, family crisis, or school activities or school conflict is subject to conditional suspension. Each coach can decide the amount of additional work for absences.

TRAVEL

All athletes are expected to ride the bus to all games except in special cases that are cleared by the head coach. Students are encouraged to ride the bus home. **Students may be released to their parents or legal guardian only. All others released have to be handled prior to the contest by the Principal or Athletic Director.**

GROOMING AND DRESS

We will follow the dress code that is in the student handbook. Athletes will be required to follow other rules that are not in the handbook. Male athletes will be clean-shaven. Male athletes will not be permitted to wear earrings during school or at school functions or sporting events, even if that athlete is just a spectator. Athletes will not be allowed to wear bandannas or other headgear not appropriate to their sport. Tattoos and other body markings will be covered. Baggy pants will not be tolerated. Hair that is a distraction to athletics or calls attention to a specific athlete will not be tolerated.

CELL PHONE USE IN LOCKER ROOMS

Under no circumstances can a person use a camera, video recorder, cell phone, or other recording device to capture, record, or transfer a representation of a nude or partially nude person in the locker room. Anyone who violates this policy shall be subject to school disciplinary action and/or penalties under state law. The building principal will be notified and shall be responsible for enforcing this policy.

Olney Athletics Mission Statement

1. To create an atmosphere and environment for all players to be successful as people.

2. To provide academic support for each player to become a successful student and earn their diploma.
3. To help each player reach their full athletic potential and to have the opportunity to win a championship.
4. Above all else, our student athletes will be athletes of **character**

Vision For The Athletic Program

“To make sure that the Olney Athletic Program will be respected as one of the best programs in the state”