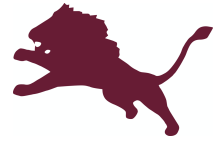


BROWNWOOD LIONS



BROWNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE

I. Athletic Philosophy

The coaching staff at Brownwood High School takes pride that athletics is an essential component of the educational curriculum. Athletics should be a vital part of the school's overall educational program. We believe that positive and productive athletic experiences will aid in the physical, mental, social and emotional growth of young men and women. It is our goal to help our student athletes develop successful life skills that will equip them for future success.

We will train our student athletes to win athletic contests fairly and honestly. Our coaching staff will strive to promote an attitude consistent with integrity, honor, hard work, perseverance, loyalty, fairness, high ethics and morals that we believe is essential in developing life-long winners. We believe that our primary purpose is to help mold young men and women into positive and productive members of society. Likewise, our immediate goals are to be successful on the playing field and in the classroom.

Since our student athletes represent this school and community wherever they go, they must understand that participation in athletics is a privilege that requires responsibility and sacrifice. We will enjoy the benefits of thinking and acting in terms of TEAM 1st, me 2nd.

II. Authority and Purpose

The BHS Athletic Code is established under the authority of Administrative Policy of the BISD. BHS interscholastic athletic programs operate under the guidelines of the University Interscholastic League (UIL). The standards of the BHS Athletic Code meet or exceed the standards of the BISD Student Handbook and the UIL.

The purpose of the athletic code is to establish standards of academic performance and behavior for the students involved in interscholastic athletic programs as well as the consequences for the failure to meet these standards. The privilege of participating in the BHS athletic program is subject to the student athlete's compliance with the BHS Athletic Code.

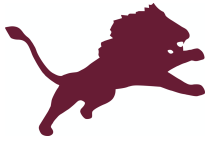
III. Athlete Defined

A student athlete at BHS is an individual who meets one of the following criteria:

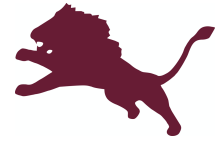
- a. tries out for an athletic team by reporting to practice,
- b. is a member of any athletic team, and/or
- c. is a team manager.

IV. Duration of Athletic Code

The student athlete is subject to all provisions of the code effective upon the first day of practice or the beginning of the school year, whichever occurs first. The student athlete is subject to the code at all times and places whether school is in session or not for 12 calendar months from the date the student athlete agreed to abide by the athletic code.



BROWNWOOD LIONS



Consequences for violating the Brownwood ISD Athletic Code of Conduct will be in effect for non-league, league, district, regional, and state contests and championships. With regard to suspensions from contests, scrimmages do not count as contests. Consequences of athletic code violations will carry over from school year to school year and will be in effect for the duration of the athlete's high school participation. Middle school violations do not follow the athlete to the high school. All athletes have a clean record upon their first enrollment into high school. If an athlete transfers while in high school while having accumulated violations and moves back into the district their violations will be in effect.

The student athlete will receive a copy of the athletic code. It is the student athlete's responsibility to inform his or her parents of the code and to return the appropriate forms with signatures indicating that both the student athlete and parent understand that participation in BHS athletics is contingent upon the student athlete abiding by the athletic code. The student athlete must return the appropriate forms within one week of receiving a copy of the athletic code. Failure to do so will result in the student athlete being restricted from participation in athletics.

V. General Guidelines, Rules, Regulations, and Penalties

The rules governing student athletes are set forth in this code which is in addition to the rules set forth by the UIL and the Brownwood ISD. A student athlete may be disciplined by both the student code of conduct and the athletic code for violation of either code arising from the same incident. In addition, the student athlete may be disciplined for violation of state/federal laws, regardless of where the violation occurs. (This does not refer to minor traffic tickets.)

The basic principle of conduct under which this athletic code was written is:

As a student athlete, you are to conduct yourself in such a manner that you bring credit to yourself, your teammates, your family and to BHS. A student athlete is never to engage in any activity that can be interpreted as inappropriate for a Brownwood High School athletic team member.

The following are the general guidelines, regulations, and penalties of the Brownwood School Athletic Code:

1. As Brownwood ISD student athletes endeavor to win any athletic competition, they will behave in a manner that **reflects pride and class**.
2. Student athletes are expected to be **outstanding citizens and students**.
3. Student athletes are to demonstrate **great effort** on a daily basis, which is a reflection of a student athlete's determination and dedication to the team and coach.
4. Every team member is expected to display **loyalty** to the team and a positive attitude under all circumstances and in any role on the team. It is the responsibility of the head coach of the sport to determine **each team member's role**.

Disgruntled student athletes cannot be allowed to negatively affect a positive team attitude. Every single team member is important, regardless of role.



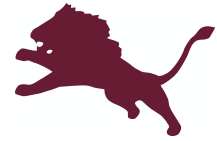
BROWNWOOD LIONS



5. **Veteran student athletes are expected to lead by example** and to be a role model for the younger student athletes. Veteran student athletes are expected to encourage and help the younger student athletes grow and develop into positive and productive team members.
6. Respectful people create a positive environment. BHS student athletes are expected to **be respectful and reflect a positive image** at all times, including the showing of **support for fellow student athletes** in other sports.
7. Participation in the athletic program is a **privilege** given with inherent trust and elevated behavioral expectations. **Admittance to the athletic program** is granted only to students who are in good standing with the athletic code. Student athletes who miss workouts may be required to make up the workouts with conditioning exercises. It is the head coach's sole discretion to determine how much conditioning will be made up. There may be a **'trust earning'** period of time in which the student athlete will have to demonstrate good behavior and/or passing grades before being allowed to participate in the athletic program. It is the head coach's sole discretion to determine the amount of time needed to earn that trust and consequently to admit the student athlete into the athletic program.
8. Every student athlete is responsible for turning in all **paperwork** necessary to participate in the BHS athletic program. Physical, parent permission, UIL documents and other required forms are to be turned in promptly as a requirement for participation in athletics. Failure to return the required forms by the due date may result in the student athlete being removed from athletics.
9. Student athletes who are **suspended** from school cannot participate in practice.
10. Student athletes who are in **ISS on the day of an athletic contest** cannot participate in the athletic contest.
11. **Unsportsmanlike conduct** will not be tolerated. Examples of unacceptable unsportsmanlike conduct are: unsportsmanlike penalty, technical foul, or ejection from a contest.
12. Student athletes who **steal** from teammates, other students or from other schools will be suspended from their team.
13. A student may be **suspended pending investigation** and/or permanently removed from Brownwood athletics for any violation of the Texas Education Code, Chapter 37.
14. **Breaking Training** includes out-of-school offenses such as drinking, receiving a Minor in Possession, possession of an illegal substance or possession of drug paraphernalia. The penalties for breaking training are as follows:
 - **1st Offense**- the student athlete will run/walk 50 miles (freshman girls and freshman boys will run/walk 25 miles). Once completed, the student athlete will be allowed



BROWNWOOD LIONS



to return to participate in an athletic competition. There will be a minimum of a 10 calendar day suspension, excluding Sundays.

- The exception to this rule is the **48-Hour Rule** which allows a student athlete to be required to run/walk $\frac{1}{2}$ of the required exercise (freshman girls and freshman boys will run/walk 12.5 miles), if the student athlete confesses to the coach that he/she broke training within 48 hours of the incident or before the coach confronts that athlete about the incident. There will be a minimum of a five calendar day suspension, excluding Sundays.
- **2nd Offense-** Same as 1st offense with an increase to 100 miles and a suspension of 45 calendar days, excluding Sundays.
- **3rd Offense-** Same as 2nd offense with an increase to a suspension of 1 calendar year.

****These penalties will begin upon citation, arrest, or substantiation of the offense by the athletic director. The time, date, and supervision of running must be approved by the Athletic Director.**

15. Possession or use of tobacco is also considered **Breaking Training** and produces consequences of 5 miles-1st offense, 10 miles-2nd offense, 15 miles-3rd offense, etc.

16. **“Wrong Place at the Wrong Time” Rule.** The purpose of this rule is to save our student athletes the trouble that comes with being in the “Wrong place at the wrong time.” This situation will most often occur when a student athlete is at a party, in a car, or with a group in which illegal substances are present. These situations usually produce accusations which usually lead to investigation. There will be no consequences from accusation alone. If the accusations are accompanied by the fact that our student athlete was indeed at a place where illegal substances were present, but did not partake of such illegal substances, then this student athlete would more than likely fall under this rule and would be subject to consequences of 5 miles-1st offense, 10 miles-2nd offense, 15 miles-3rd offense, etc.

****Any verbal accusation by a Brownwood ISD staff member or other Brownwood city official is worthy of investigation.**

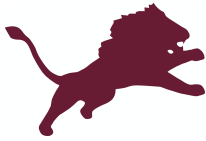
17. Student athletes are expected to follow all rules in the Brownwood ISD student handbook and the Brownwood ISD Student Code of Conduct.

18. Student athletes who receive either written or oral **discipline referrals** from a teacher may be disciplined by their coaches.

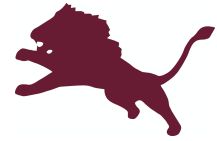
19. Student athletes who have problems **outside of school functions** may be disciplined by their coaches.

20. **Injuries** must be reported to the appropriate coach. It is student athlete’s responsibility to follow through with an assigned treatment of an injury.

21. It is the student athlete’s responsibility to maintain **cleanliness** in order to prevent MRSA (**Staph**) **infection** and any other unhealthy infection.

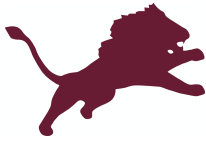


BROWNWOOD LIONS

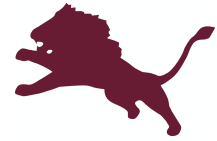


22. The head coach of the sport involved will determine the amount of **makeup conditioning** due for any missed practice and/or off-season workouts.
23. Each student athlete is responsible for the athletic equipment issued to him by the coaching staff. Athletic equipment is to be stored in a secured locker when not in use. The student athlete is responsible for the cost of any equipment that is either lost or stolen.
24. Coaches will work with student athletes who wish to participate in **concurrent sports**. It will be the responsibility of the coaches of the concurrent sports to determine the schedule and level of participation for the affected student athletes.
25. **School contests** have first priority. Participation in non-school sports activities is secondary to school-related games and practice. The head coach of each sport will have sole discretion in determining when he will allow a student athlete to miss a practice or a game for a non-school sports activity.
26. The head coach of each sport will make recommendations as to which student athletes will **receive a varsity letter**. Each varsity head coach will be responsible to convey lettering qualifications to his/her student athletes.
27. One of the most important life lessons that athletics can teach is “**finishing what you start**”. Student athletes will be given two weeks at the beginning of the season in which to decide to **commit to the team** for the entire season. If a student athlete chooses not to commit during the two weeks, no penalty will be assessed. After the two-week commitment period, all student athletes will be considered to be committed to their teams. Once committed, the penalty for quitting:
 - The student athlete will forfeit their eligibility to participate in THEIR next sport.

**There will be no penalty for withdrawing from participation if the reason for withdrawing is approved by both the head coach and Athletic Director.
28. If a student athlete is issued athletic attire, he/she will **dress in the proper athletic attire** for all practices and games. School issued athletic attire should not be worn outside of approved athletic functions.
29. Student athletes will follow the **dress code when traveling** to and from athletic contests.
30. How student athletes present themselves at contests is extremely important. We will follow the **BISD dress code**. Additional dress code guidelines may be imposed by the coaches with the approval of the Athletic Director. Some additional guidelines are as follows:
 - If a cap is worn during an athletic function, it will be a BHS cap.
 - If a toboggan is worn during cold weather, we prefer it to be maroon, grey, or white.
 - No other head coverings will be worn.
 - BHS student athletes are to always present themselves in a manner of the highest class exhibiting **Lion Pride**.



BROWNWOOD LIONS



- No jewelry, Facial hair, Unmanaged, or discolored hair will be permitted.
 - Hair must be out of eyes, off ears and off of collar and be of your natural color.
31. Student athletes will travel with the team to/from athletic contests. A student athlete must obtain written permission from the head coach in order to travel with a parent/guardian/family member or designee.
32. Student athletes will always **be on time** for practices, games and for travel arrangements. Varsity student athletes who must **miss practice** are required to inform the head coach prior to the practice time.
33. Every student athlete must shoulder the responsibility of passing all academic requirements. A student athlete is accountable to his teammates/coaches to remain eligible for athletic competition.
34. Consequences for offenses are determined to be **equitable, not necessarily equal**. In other words, the consequence is determined for each student athlete based upon such factors as physical maturity, medical condition or sport-specific conditioning. The athletic director will have the authority to issue consequences for special circumstances.
35. The following **Violation Grid** does not encompass all possible violations. The athletic director has the right to add/modify at any given time. This **Violation Grid** shows the level of offense for each type of violation:

<u>LEVEL I</u>	<u>LEVEL II</u>	<u>LEVEL III</u>
Disrespect	disrespect	disrespect
Insubordination	Insubordination	Insubordination
School code of conduct / Student handbook		
Excused missing workout without reporting to coach	Unexcused missing workout/game	Unexcused missing workout/game
Unsportsmanlike conduct	Unsportsmanlike conduct	Unsportsmanlike conduct
Cheating		
Profanity		
Poor attitude		
Late to practice		
Conduct/grades		
Other misconduct		
Discipline referral		
Disrupting practice		
Unauthorized use of school equipment		
Failure to turn in issued equipment		



BROWNWOOD LIONS



Failure to turn in fundraising equipment/money		
D-Hall/ISS		
Improper dress		
Dress code		
Improper grooming		
Lying	Lying	
Hazing	Hazing	
Disloyalty to team/coach	Disloyalty to team/coach	
	Stealing	Stealing
	Aggressive/threatening behavior toward others	
	Destroy/damage property	
	Possession or use of tobacco	
	Wrong place, wrong time	Repeated level II offense
	Repeated level I offense	Multiple level II offenses
	Multiple level I offenses	Refusal to complete any punishment

36. The following ***Consequence Grid*** shows the corresponding punishments associated with the Level I – Level III violations: Corporal Punishment may be use by the Athletic Director or Authorized Coordinator at any time.

<u>LEVEL I</u>	<u>LEVEL II</u>	<u>LEVEL III</u>
Conference	Conference	
Push-ups		
Plate pushes	Plate pushes	
Lap running	Lap running	
Horses	Horses	
Mile(s)	Miles(s)	
Other running	Other running	
	Suspension	
Sprints	Sprints	
Poles	Poles	
Corporal Punishment	Corporal Punishment	Corporal Punishment
Yo-Yo's	Yo-Yo's	
Cross countries	Cross countries	Any combination of Level 1-Level III



BROWNWOOD LIONS



2 miles	5 – 25 miles	50 – 100 miles
	Any option of Level 1	Any option of Level 1 or 2
		Removal from Team for 1,2,3, or 4 years

VI. General Information to Parents

Coach/parent conferences conducted immediately after an athletic contest are not usually productive. Therefore, parents who wish to have a conference with a coach, need to call the school to schedule a meeting with the coach.

The qualities of good citizenship, proper attitude, and a strong work ethic are extremely important in achieving team success. Therefore, if a student athlete does not exemplify these qualities at a satisfactory level, it may impact playing time.

BHS continually works to raise the level of behavioral expectations for coaches, student athletes, parents and spectators at all athletic events. With this in mind, parents are asked to ensure that their actions reflect a positive attitude and encouragement to all those involved in this athletic/ educational process. We know that there will be disagreements at times. It is crucial that we adults (coaches, parents, community members) be a good role model to our youth in how we handle disagreements and conflict. This is extremely important and greatly appreciated.

VII. Appeal Process

Every student athlete/parent has the right to appeal the decisions made by a coach involving violations and punishments. Please speak with the appropriate coach before appealing the decision to the Athletic Director. *The amount of playing time cannot be appealed; that is a judgment call that is reserved exclusively for the coach.*

The steps of the appeal process are as follows:

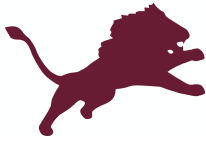
1. Athletic Director
2. Principal
3. Superintendent Designee
4. Board of Trustees

VIII. Eligibility

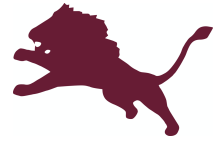
An individual is eligible to participate in a varsity contest as a representative of BHS if that individual is in compliance with all UIL rules and regulations involving athletic eligibility.

IX. Definitions

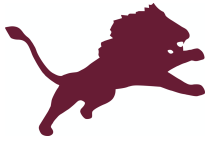
- **Cheating** - to defraud or trick; dishonest act or practice (Example: inappropriate copying of answers on an academic assignment).
- **Conduct/grades** - any poor reflection that is shown by a low score on a student athlete's report card.



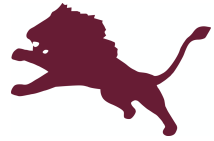
BROWNWOOD LIONS



- **Discipline referrals** - oral or written report of misbehavior given by any BHS staff member.
- **Disloyalty to team/coach** - grumbling, badmouthing, continual criticism, or degrading another BHS student athlete or coach.
- **Disrespect** - to player or coach; foul or inappropriate look, tone of voice, choice of words, body gestures, or contact.
- **Disrupting practice/procedures** - any action that a coach considers disruptive to practice or other procedures involved in athletics (Example: temper tantrum, late, not calling in before absence, giving less than 100% effort).
- **Dress code**- as described in Section IV, 30.
- **Good standing** - no outstanding violations.
- **ISS**- In-School suspension.
- **Hazing** - to harass, humiliate, or play pranks; often associated with some physical abuse.
- **Improper dress** - wearing clothing or other that is against school rules or coach's directions.
- **Improper grooming** - as described in Section IV, 30.
- **Insubordination** - state, quality, or fact of being disobedient; refusing or failing to follow instructions.
- **Lying** - untruthful or deceitful
- **Missing a game** - not present for any part or entire game or scrimmage.
- **Missing workout/practice** - not present for any part or entire practice or called meeting.
- **Poor attitude** - any attitude that is not conducive to building up the team, being coachable, respecting coaches, or respecting teammates.
- **Profanity** - vulgar, obscene, or unacceptable language.
- **School code of conduct** - school rules and/or the student code of conduct which are found in the student handbook.
- **Stealing** - to take from another without permission or authority.
- **Unauthorized use of school equipment** - any use of school equipment other than its intended use as determined by the coach.
- **Unsportsmanlike conduct** - not exemplifying fair play; not accepting unfavorable decisions graciously; responding inappropriately to another person's behavior during or surrounding an athletic event. (Example: personal foul, technical foul, ejection, warnings from coach or official).



BROWNWOOD LIONS



ATHLETIC CODE AGREEMENTS

I have read the Athletic Code and I agree to abide by the regulations stated therein. I have also discussed this with my parents or guardians and they attest to this fact by their signature.

Student athlete's printed name _____

Student athlete's signature _____ Date _____

Parent's signature _____ Date _____