

Wellman-Union CISD Extracurricular Policy

Section 1: Extracurricular Philosophy and General Disciplinary Action

Department Philosophy

The philosophy of the Wellman-Union extra-curricular department focuses on developing well-rounded human beings by prioritizing holistic character development and fundamental growth. We represent our school with pride, demanding maximum effort, a positive attitude, and a selfless servant leadership mentality. Accountability, discipline, and holding ourselves to a higher standard are at the core of everything we do. Through purposeful, structured practices, our staff intentionally teaches essential life skills—such as effective communication, time management, and resilience. Ultimately, success is measured by the personal growth of our students, ensuring they build the lifelong learning habits and integrity needed to thrive both today and in all future endeavors. Every Student, Every Day. It's Who We Are!

General Disciplinary Framework: Equity Over Equality

The Wellman-Union extra-curricular department operates under a framework of **equity over equality**. While major infractions carry mandatory administrative outcomes, standard disciplinary matters are handled with professional discretion based on context, severity, and student history.

To maintain this framework, handbook policies explicitly distinguish between mandatory and discretionary actions through intentional phrasing:

- **Shall / Will:** Denotes a mandatory requirement. Action **must** be taken exactly as stated.
- **Should / May:** Denotes administrative and coaching discretion. Action **can** be adjusted based on the specific scenario to achieve an equitable outcome.

Extracurricular, athletic, or academic prowess shall not be considered when determining disciplinary equity. Standards of integrity apply equally to all students, regardless of performance or standing.

Disciplinary Action & Discretion

- Sponsors and coaches will review all facts and circumstances surrounding violations to impose appropriate, equitable disciplinary action.
- Staff will strive for consistency across handbook violations while exercising sound professional discretion.
- If a student is removed from the district by law enforcement officials, they shall not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity upon returning until they meet all Local, Department, and UIL policies.
- The superintendent, principal, or athletic director will not ordinarily interfere in a sponsor or coach's judgment regarding discipline but retains the authority to increase or decrease a consequence based on an independent assessment of the situation.

Every Student, Every Day. It's Who We Are!

Section 2: Athletic Department Goals and Policies

Athletic Department Goals

- **Goal #1:** For athletes to show good sportsmanship, have a sense of fair play, and properly conduct themselves before, during, and after athletic contests.
- **Goal #2:** To teach athletes the importance of developing responsibility, self-discipline, sacrifice, good habits, and enthusiasm for their endeavors.
- **Goal #3:** To build self-esteem through the knowledge that each athlete is an important part of the team, establishing pride in team, school, and community.
- **Goal #4:** To develop a strong commitment to the program and teammates in order to achieve a common goal.
- **Goal #5:** To teach core values that carry beyond high school athletics, guiding the athlete to become a positive role model for other students.
- **Goal #6:** To maximize the unique abilities of each athlete and create a lifelong growth mindset.

Athletic Policies & Code of Conduct

I. Qualifications

- **Grades:** An athlete shall pass all classes in which they are enrolled. If an athlete fails two six-week periods within a single semester, they may be eligible for removal from the sport and/or athletic program.
- **Attitude and Leadership:** Each athlete must maintain a cooperative spirit, display high work ethic, and accept their responsibility as a visible role model for peers and younger students.

II. Expectations & Requirements

- All athletes shall complete all scheduled workouts and are highly encouraged to participate in multiple team sports.
- All athletes shall attend mandatory study halls or tutorials when required by staff.

III. Practice Attendance & Regulations

- Practices are mandatory and occur both during the school day and outside regular school hours.
- If an athlete must miss a practice, they shall notify a coach prior to the absence. In cases of sudden illness, a parent, guardian, or the student must contact the coach directly.
- Missed practices shall require the completion of missed conditioning layouts. Unexcused absences immediately preceding a competition may result in limited playing time or suspension from that event.
- Injured or non-participating athletes are still expected to attend and observe practice whenever physically possible. Tardiness to practice shall result in disciplinary conditioning.
- **No-Call, No-Show Attendance:** An athlete who accumulates **three (3) unexcused no-call, no-show absences** from scheduled practices, competitions, or other required team functions during a season **shall be removed from that sport for the remainder of the season**. A no-call, no-show is defined as failing to attend a required team function without prior notification to a coach or without an approved excuse. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the head coach and Athletic Director.
- **Parent Concerns & Conferences:** Parents who wish to discuss concerns regarding their student-athlete shall schedule a conference with the appropriate coach at least **24 hours in advance**. To promote respectful communication and allow for thoughtful discussion, coaches shall not conduct

parent conferences immediately before, during, or immediately following practices or athletic contests. Meetings should be scheduled at a mutually agreed-upon time.

IV. Conduct Consequences

- **School Rules:** Violations of general campus rules shall result in parallel discipline during the athletic period.
- **ISS / DAEP Placement:** Any athlete placed in In-School Suspension (ISS) or DAEP **shall** face disciplinary conditioning during the athletic period. The student may be suspended from competition at the discretion of the coach. Multiple placements within a school year **may** result in removal from the athletic program.
- **Substance Abuse:** Any athlete found using or possessing alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, or illegal drugs (on or off campus) shall face immediate discipline.
 - In accordance with FNF(Regulation): Consequences of positive drug test results will be cumulative through the end of the current school year. To return to participation in extracurricular activities after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result.
 - First Offense: Suspension from any extracurricular activity for 5 calendar days.
 - During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.
 - Second Offense: Suspension from any extracurricular activity for 10 calendar days.
 - During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.
 - Third Offense: Suspension from participation in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the school semester
 - Personnel may exercise professional discretion to enforce more stringent restrictions as warranted; however, the foundational standards established in Board Policy and Extracurricular Regulations must be maintained as the absolute minimum threshold.
- **Theft & Criminal Activity:** Any athlete caught stealing may face immediate removal from the program. Arrests for criminal activity may result in immediate suspension, and convictions may result in a full one-year program ban, with re-entrance subject to coaching staff approval.

V. Athletic Three-Strike Accountability Framework

- In addition to consequences specifically required elsewhere in this handbook, an athlete may be assigned a strike by a coach for conduct, attendance, effort, attitude, insubordination, repeated minor violations, or other behavior that fails to meet the standards of the athletic program.
- **The assignment of a strike is discretionary.** Coaches should consider the facts and circumstances of the incident, its severity, the athlete's disciplinary history, and prior corrective efforts when determining whether a strike is appropriate.
- **First & Second Strike:** The athlete may receive corrective consequences determined by the coach, which may include extra conditioning, loss of privileges or playing time, and/or suspension from one or more competitions.
- **Third Strike:** An athlete who receives a third strike shall be removed from the athletic program.
- Nothing in the three-strike framework requires a coach or administrator to issue a strike before imposing a consequence that is otherwise authorized or required by this handbook. Serious or major misconduct may result in immediate suspension or removal when permitted or required by the applicable policy.

- Athletic or academic talent, team role, playing ability, or competitive importance shall not be considered when assigning strikes or determining consequences.

VI. Game Day and Travel Rules

- Athletes shall display sportsmanship and team loyalty at all times. Teammates must sit together in assigned sections when other levels are competing.
- Students shall remain within the confines of the host facility until the entire team exits together.
- All athletes shall ride the team bus both to and from competitions. Exceptions require an emergency or direct, prior arrangements confirmed by a parent/guardian with the school administration.
- Improper behavior directed at officials, opponents, or fans shall not be tolerated and may result in immediate multi-game suspensions.
- Only official, department-issued uniforms shall be worn during competition to ensure team unity and UIL compliance.
- By choosing to be part of Wellman-Union athletics, you commit yourself to being at all athletic competitions that you are involved in. Missing a game may result in serious disciplinary action. It is imperative that each athlete understand their responsibility to the team and that a sense of trust is built amongst team members. Activities outside of school competitions are not to be prioritized above school activities.

VII. Quitting a Team

- A student has a 10-day grace period from the start of a season to trial a sport. Quitting after 10 days dictates that the student shall not participate in any other sport until the regular season of the vacated sport concludes, unless explicitly excused by the head coach and Athletic Director. Reinstatement requires administrative approval, makeup work, and a monitored 20-mile conditioning completion.

VIII. Lettering Requirements

- To earn a letterman jacket or associated patches, the student shall remain in good academic and disciplinary standing throughout the season, while meeting the specific varsity playing time requirements outlined by their head coach. WUISD reserves the right to withhold a jacket if our standard is not upheld at any time. The Athletic Director retains final approval over all lettering eligibility.

Section 3: Agriculture (Ag) Department Goals and Policies

Agriculture Department Goals

- **Goal #1:** For FFA and Ag students to display premier leadership, personal growth, and career success before, during, and after all official conventions, leadership events, and stock shows.
- **Goal #2:** To teach our students the importance of personal responsibility, self-discipline, financial and time sacrifices, ethical animal care, and project management.
- **Goal #3:** To build self-esteem through the knowledge that each chapter member contributes to the whole, establishing a sense of pride in our chapter, school, and agricultural community.
- **Goal #4:** To develop a strong commitment to agricultural education, competitive teams (LDEs/CDEs), and livestock projects in order to achieve excellence.
- **Goal #5:** To teach career and agricultural values which carry beyond high school, turning students into positive, civic-minded role models.
- **Goal #6:** To maximize the potential of each student through hands-on learning, grit, and a strong work ethic.

Agriculture Policies & Code of Conduct

(As outlined in the department directive, disciplinary consequences and conduct expectations mirror the athletic policies to ensure programmatic equity across the district.)

I. Qualifications

- **Grades:** An Ag student shall pass all classes in which they are enrolled to remain eligible for competitive events, conventions, and stock shows. If a student fails two six-week periods within a single semester, they may be eligible for removal from competitive travel slots or chapter officer positions.
- **Attitude and Leadership:** Each student must maintain a cooperative spirit, display high work ethic, and accept their responsibility as a visible representative of the Wellman-Union FFA chapter.

II. Expectations & Requirements

- All competitive Ag team members shall complete all scheduled training sessions and are highly encouraged to participate in diverse leadership and career development events.
- All students shall attend mandatory study halls or tutorials when required by Ag instructors.

III. Meeting, Practice, & Project Attendance

- Official chapter meetings, LDE/CDE practices, and project check-ins are mandatory.
- If a student must miss a scheduled team practice or mandatory shop/barn cleanup day, they shall notify the Ag instructor prior to the absence. In cases of sudden illness, a parent or guardian must contact the advisor directly.
- Unexcused absences immediately preceding an LDE/CDE contest or major livestock show may result in limited participation, removal from a travel roster, or event suspension.
- Tardiness to mandatory team functions or official cleanups shall result in corrective maintenance duties or alternative campus services.

IV. Conduct Consequences

- **School Rules:** Violations of campus rules shall result in parallel discipline or restrictions during Ag/Shop periods or barn access hours.
- **ISS / DAEP Placement:** Any Ag student placed in ISS or DAEP shall face disciplinary or maintenance duties during their Ag periods. The student may be suspended from attending upcoming conventions or shows at the instructor's discretion. Multiple placements within a school year may result in removal from travel teams and officer positions.
- **Substance Abuse:** Any student found using or possessing alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, or illegal drugs (on or off campus) shall face immediate discipline.
 - In accordance with FNF(Regulation): Consequences of positive drug test results will be cumulative through the end of the current school year. To return to participation in extracurricular activities after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result.
 - First Offense: Suspension from any extracurricular activity for 5 calendar days.
 - During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.
 - Second Offense: Suspension from any extracurricular activity for 10 calendar days.
 - During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.
 - Third Offense: Suspension from participation in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the school semester
 - Personnel may exercise professional discretion to enforce more stringent restrictions as warranted; however, the foundational standards established in Board Policy and Extracurricular Regulations must be maintained as the absolute minimum threshold.
- **Theft, Vandalism, & Criminal Activity:** Any student caught stealing or intentionally damaging shop equipment, school property, or another student's livestock/project may face immediate removal from the extra-curricular program. Arrests and convictions may result in immediate suspension or a full one-year competitive ban.

V. Travel, Conventions, and Stock Show Rules

- Students shall display sportsmanship, professionalism, and strict loyalty to the chapter at all events. Students must sit together in assigned sections during general sessions at conventions.
- Students shall remain within the confines of designated hotels or fairground facilities until the advisor coordinates group movement.
- All students shall ride school-approved transportation both to and from conventions, judging contests, and shows. Exceptions require documented emergencies or prior, administrative-approved coordination from a parent/guardian.
- Improper behavior directed at show judges, officials, advisors, or the public shall not be tolerated and may result in immediate disqualification or removal from the event.
- Official FFA Dress or department-approved uniform combinations shall be worn during designated official functions to ensure chapter alignment and organizational compliance.
- By choosing to be part of the program, you commit yourself to being at all competitions that you are involved in. Missing a competition may result in serious disciplinary action. It is imperative that each student understand their responsibility to the team and that a sense of trust is built amongst team members. Activities outside of school competitions are not to be prioritized above school activities.

VI. Quitting a Competitive Team

- A student has a 10-day grace period from the formation of an LDE or CDE team to trial participation. Quitting a designated competitive slot after the 10-day grace period dictates that the student shall not participate on subsequent competitive Ag or extra-curricular teams during that instructional block, unless explicitly excused by the Ag advisor and Administration.

VII. Lettering and Award Requirements

- To earn an official FFA jacket subsidy, chapter awards, or lettering recognition, the student shall remain in good academic and disciplinary standing throughout the school year, while meeting the local participation metrics established by the agricultural science department.

Section 4: Sport Specific Rules/Guidelines (as needed)

- **For example, if Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, etc.** have specific guidelines for players we will include them here or they will be handed out to athletes.
- Sport specific guidelines can be more restrictive than the guidelines found in policy, however they cannot be less restrictive.
- **Girls Basketball players:**
 - Shall not wear jewelry in practice or in games.
 - Shall always have hair pulled back for practice and games.

Wellman-Union CISD Extracurricular Contract

Section 1: Student

- 1.) I am aware of the time and commitment involved in being a part of the Wellman-Union extracurricular program.
- 2.) I will attend all practices and competitions that I am expected to be at.
- 3.) I will be on time for practices, events, games and departures.
- 4.) I will cooperate with my teammates, teachers and coaches, while striving to abide by the Wellman-Union CISD extracurricular goals and expectations.
- 5.) I will maintain high academic standards throughout the year.
- 6.) I understand that my position as an extracurricular student requires me to maintain a high standard of accountability both during and outside of extracurricular activities. I also understand my responsibilities as a role model for younger students and am fully aware that if I break my obligations to the team, coaches, or program that I will be held accountable through the discretionary discipline of the staff.

I have received a copy of the Wellman-Union ISD Extracurricular Policy. I accept the responsibility for reading it. I also agree that I am responsible for abiding by its stipulations.

Signature of Student

Date

Section 2: Parent

- 1.) I am aware of the responsibility my son/daughter is undertaking in choosing to be a part of the Wellman-Union extracurricular program and I am supportive of this decision.
- 2.) I have read the Extracurricular Policy and understand the rules and regulations that my son/daughter will be accepting as a part of the program.
- 3.) I understand and will work to support the goals of the Wellman-Union ISD extracurricular programs.
- 4.) I give my consent and support for my son/daughter to be part of this program.

Signature of Parent

Date