

## **Athletic Drug Testing Program**

### **Pacific High School**

Students have a right to attend school in an environment conducive to learning. Since drug, alcohol and tobacco use is illegal and interferes with both effective learning and the healthy development of children and adolescents, the school has a fundamental legal and ethical obligation to prevent drug use and to maintain drug-free educational environments (Board policy IGAEB). It is the policy of the district to provide a learning environment that is safe. Schools should be free from drugs and alcohol (Board policy JFCH/JFCI). It is the school's obligation to protect the health, welfare and safety of students (Board policy JFCG). Rules for athletes, which reflect the positive values of abstaining from the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco, shall be created. A safe environment for athletic practice and competition shall be created.

Therefore, this administrative regulation establishes and requires participation in a random drug-testing program for all students who participate in extracurricular athletics including soccer, volleyball, cross country, football (Bandon Co-op), basketball, wrestling (Bandon Co-op), track and field, and cheerleading; and activities including Associated Student Body, <sup>1</sup>National Honor Society, <sup>2</sup>FFA (Future Farmers of America) and <sup>3</sup>SOCYL (Southern Oregon Coast Youth Leaders) at Pacific High School. While participation in athletics is optional, participation in this program is not optional for those students who want to be involved in athletics and activities. The purpose of the program is to help ensure the health, safety and welfare of extracurricular students and athletes by helping to prevent and/or reduce use of illegal drugs. Student athletes who test positive for illegal drugs will not be allowed to participate.

The student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) must annually sign a consent form before participation in athletics and activities will be allowed. The consent form allows the student to be randomly drug tested at any time during the sport season or duration of involvement in the activity. This program will test for illegal drugs by the use of breathalyzer, saliva and/or urinalysis. The specimen will be collected by a trained collector using standard guidelines that provide for individual privacy while ensuring the integrity of the test. All test results will be shared with the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s). Test results will be confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than those of this program. The student athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) will have an opportunity to meet and explain any positive results before the results are declared as a verified positive. Verified positive test results will be shared with the student's coach and the PHS athletic director on a need to know basis. Students with verified positive tests shall be excluded from all sports/activities in which he or she is participating for the remainder of the season or length of the activity. The participant may appeal for reinstatement to the school administrator by submitting a written request that includes plans to seek a thorough substance abuse assessment program, at the expense of the student and/or parent/guardian. A participant will receive a

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<sup>1</sup>These activities have charters that may be more prohibitive than this policy.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid. p. 1

<sup>3</sup>Ibid. p. 1

minimum suspension of two weeks of time and the number of contests that would normally be involved within that period of time.

If it is the participant's second or more verified positive test result within the current school year, whether or not the student was previously participating, he or she may continue participation or participate in future seasons only with permission of the athletic director and principal based on any conditions of participation they may deem appropriate and following the guidelines above with the addition of a four week minimum period of suspension.

The goals of this program are to help prevent and/or reduce the use of illegal drugs among all PHS students by focusing on one group of students – athletes and extracurricular activities. Students who use illegal drugs place their health, safety and welfare at risk in ways that other students do not. All students involved in athletic and extracurricular activities also have unique responsibilities as leaders and role models. Thus, to provide for the health, safety and welfare of students as well as to prevent and reduce their use of illegal drugs this program will:

1. Help prevent use of illegal drugs by making it easier for students to say no;
2. Help reduce use of illegal drugs by making it easier for students to say no;
3. Educate the students further in the effects and consequences of illegal drug use;
4. Assist those students who might be using to stop;
5. By not allowing the student to participate while under the influence of illegal drugs:
  - a. Help protect the student from the health-related risks of drug use;
  - b. Help protect the student from injury;
  - c. Help protect team/activity members and competitors from injury.
6. Promote the image of students who participate in extracurricular activities as role models and leaders in the eyes of other students and the community.

This program is not intended to be disciplinary or punitive in nature. Disciplinary and punitive programs already exist. This program is in addition to all such programs and has no effect on them. However, no student shall be disciplined as a result of any verified positive test conducted under this program other than stated herein. This program does not affect the current policies, practices or rights of the Port Orford-Langlois School District, Pacific High School or its athletic department with respect to drug possession or use, where reasonable suspicion or proof is obtained by means other than drug testing through this program. Information gained from other programs and under other policies may be used in this program.

The purpose of this program is:

1. To assist in fulfilling the above district policies, goals and obligations, this administrative regulation requires all students who desire to be involved in athletics at Pacific High School to participate in the random drug-testing program herein established.
2. To prevent students from participating in athletics at Pacific High School during any time they are under the influence of illegal drugs. The student's health, welfare and safety as well as the safety of

others are the prime reasons for this. In addition to the long- and short-term health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs, their use can physically, mentally and emotionally alter the body affecting the athlete's perceptions, reaction time, physical skills, judgment and/or temperament. Such changes could put the athlete, as well as his/her teammates and competitors, at risk of injury. As defined in Board policy JFCH/JFCI, "under the influence means at any time available tests can detect the illegal substance in the athlete's body."

## **Scope**

This program will include all students in grades 9-12 who participate in Oregon School Activity Association governed extracurricular athletic programs and other specified extracurricular activities at Pacific High School.

The reasons for this selection include:

1. Athletic participation and involvement in activities is voluntary. It is a privilege. It is not required;
2. As an extracurricular activity, credit is not awarded for participation. Thus, possible denial or restriction of the privilege to participate under this program would not affect a student's graduation;
3. The possibility of injury is greater in athletics than in classroom activities;
4. Students participating in extracurricular activities already have additional requirements placed on them that are above and beyond those of other students, including:
  - a. Pacific's athletic code;
  - b. Team/Chapter rules;
  - c. Dress codes;
  - d. OSAA rules and regulations; and
  - e. Grade and credit requirements (PHS, Activity/Club, district and OSAA).
5. Students participating in athletics are already required to provide medical/physical information (i.e., athletic physical) so that the school can help ensure their health, welfare and safety. As provided by law, participants who have been, or who are taking prescription medication shall not be required to provide such information prior to testing;
6. Athletes, by the very nature of sports, already have a lower expectation of privacy than other students;
7. The community, other students and the school itself have a higher expectation of athletes and students in leadership positions. They are leaders and role models.

## **Procedures**

This program will be administered by the superintendent's designee (hereafter called program manager) who will have the authority to develop school rules and guidelines as needed to implement this program.

## 1. Registration

Each student who desires to participate in athletics covered by this program must sign, have his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) sign and return the consent form prior to participation in any athletic activity. Failure to return the form will result in no athletic participation of any type (including, but not limited to, practices and competitions).

This form needs to be completed annually. The student, once signed up, will be eligible for random selection drug testing at any time in his/her sports season(s) or duration of activities.

A student may withdraw from this program by written request signed by the student and a parent or guardian. Once withdrawn from the program, the student may not participate in PHS athletics or activities again until he/she re-registers. To re-register a new consent form must be completed and the student must request (at the student's/parent's expense) a drug test and pass it. This process can take a week or longer.

## 2. Selection

Selection of students to be tested will be done randomly by the program manager from the pool of students who have turned in their consent forms. Testing will generally occur during the school day during the regular school year. It can, however, occur during practices, before or after school and on weekends. Testing can also occur at any time during the year including fall practices in August that occur before classes begin.

## 3. Tests and Substances Tested

This program will test for illegal drugs by the use of breathalyzers, saliva and/or urinalysis. Nearly all, if not all, urine samples will be screened and tested for the following seven classes of drugs: Amphetamines (including methamphetamines), barbiturates, benzodiazepines (such as Librium and Valium, cocaine, THC (marijuana), opiates and alcohol. Tests for tobacco and/or performance-enhancing drugs (i.e., steroids) may also be conducted. The district and Pacific High School, however, maintain and reserve the right to test for any and all illegal drugs and are not limited by this listing. Current standards and testing procedures will be used in testing samples. Testing materials will be provided by modern, reputable agencies i.e. Redwood Toxicology.

## 4. Collection Procedures

After being selected, the collection procedures will be explained to the student. A trained collector using standard guidelines, which provide for individual privacy unless there is reason to believe the student may attempt to alter or substitute the specimen, will collect the specimen. Strict procedures are followed to ensure the integrity of the specimen. Students will be asked to remove outer garments such as coats and gloves. They will be asked to leave backpacks and purses outside of the collection area. They may be asked to wash and dry their hands before providing the urine sample. Students will be allowed up to four hours to provide the specimen. If the student is unable to provide the specimen in that time, he/she will be required to return at a later time as determined by the program manager to provide the specimen under a higher degree of supervision with the requirement of additional drug test to deter any possibility of alteration or substitution of specimens.

5. Chain of Custody

The collector will check the specimen for obvious adulterations and record the temperature on the chain of custody form.

6. Drug Tests Results

The following procedures will be used with the results of all drug tests done through this program:

a. All Results

The results of the drug test as well as who has been tested is confidential information. Results will only be shared with the student, his/her parents or guardian(s) and in the case of verified positive test results with the coach and athletic director on a need to know basis. No staff member other than the program manager is to share any information about specific students gained from this program with anyone. If asked and he/she feels the need to respond, the student's coach shall only say, "The student and I have decided that the student will not participate until further notice."

b. Negative Results

If the results of a drug test are negative (clean) for all drugs the program manager will notify the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).

c. Positive Results

If the results of the drug test are positive for any drug, the program manager will arrange a meeting with the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) to discuss the results and to determine if it is a verified positive test. At this meeting the parents and student can, if they desire, present evidence that the positive results were due to prescribed medication or other reasons, which will be considered in determining whether the positive test has been satisfactorily explained. The parent, guardian or student can, at their own expense, appeal by requesting that the specimen be retested. For every positive test, the program manager will assist the parents and student to arrange a plan to help ensure that the student's health, safety and welfare is protected.

(1) First Positive Result

For the first positive result, the student participant will be given the option of: participation in the drug assistance program and submission to weekly drug testing for eight weeks (if determined appropriate by the counselor); or suspension from participation in inter-scholastic athletics and/or extra-curricular programs for the remainder of the current academic year or the next athletic season, whichever is greater. Weekly drug testing must show a reduction in substance level, or the result will be considered the second positive result.

(2) Second Positive Result

For the second positive result in any two consecutive calendar years, the student participant will be suspended from participating in athletics and/or extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the current academic year and the next two consecutive athletic seasons in the second year, which ever is greater.

(3) Third Positive Result

For the third positive result in any two consecutive calendar years, the student participant will be suspended from participating in athletics and/or extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the current academic year and the next academic year.

7. Not Showing Up for a Test, Refusal to be Tested

A student who does not show up to be tested when requested or refuses to be tested will be treated as if he/she has a verified positive.

**Financial Responsibility**

1. Under this program Pacific High School will pay for all initial random drug tests as well as follow-up tests requested by the program manager.
2. Requests on appeal for another test of a positive urine specimen is the financial responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).
3. Counseling and/or treatment by nonschool agencies are the financial responsibility of the student and/or his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).
4. Re-registration testing and/or follow-up testing requested by the student or his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be paid for by the student or his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).

**Education Component**

The program manager (BCHC) will arrange with the coach or advisor of each organization to hold a team meeting to review this policy with the team/group members and to offer further education regarding substance abuse. The program manager (BCHC) shall plan this meeting with the coach and athletic director. Additional team meetings may be called to provide more educational opportunities.

**Confidentiality**

Under this drug testing program, any staff, coach, assistant, volunteer or sponsor of or with a Pacific High school athletic team who may have knowledge of the results of a drug test done through this testing program will not divulge to anyone the results of any test or the disposition of the student involved other than in the case of a legal subpoena being made upon the person. This again underscores Pacific High School's commitment to confidentiality with regards to this program.

## **Drugs and Alcohol**

Student substance abuse, possession or use of alcohol or unlawful drugs, including drug paraphernalia or any substance purported to be an unlawful drug, on or while participating in school-sponsored activities is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. If possession or use occurs on school grounds or while participating in school-sponsored activities, students will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. If possession or use occurs on school grounds, disciplinary action may include removal from any or all extracurricular activities and/or forfeiture of any school honors or privileges (as determined by school administration). A student may be referred to law enforcement officials. Parents will be notified. In addition, presence at a drug or alcohol activity is a violation of the Code of Conduct and Behavioral Expectations.

## **Tobacco**

If possession or use occurred on or near school grounds or while participating in both “home and away” school-sponsored activities, students will be subject to disciplinary action which may include removal from any or all extracurricular activities, forfeiture of any school honors or privileges or expulsion (as determined by school administration).

A student may be referred to law enforcement officials. Parents will be notified.

Students who use or possess tobacco products on or near school grounds or while participating or representing Pacific High at a school-sponsored activity, at any time “home or away,” will be subject to disciplinary action. If use occurs while participating on athletic team, extracurricular or cocurricular activity the student will be removed for the remainder of the athletic/activity season.

Students in possession of or using tobacco products while at school, on or near school ground will be suspended.

## **Procedures for Student Who Receives an MIP (Minor in Possession), DUI (Driving Under the Influence) or PCS (Possession of a Controlled Substance) (Within a four-year period)**

**1st Citation** - Student will be dismissed from all athletic and extracurricular activities, including away activities, during the current athletic season.

**Option: 1st Citation** - Students may be reinstated prior to the end of the athletic or activity season with the following provisions:

1. The student must complete a drug/alcohol assessment and subsequent follow-up as recommended by a district approved assessment facility.
2. The student and parent must sign a release of information allowing the assessor and the school official to exchange information regarding student behavior;
3. The student must work in cooperation with the school to follow through with the recommendations of the assessment;

**\*\* Note:** The cost of the assessment and any follow-up is the responsibility of the student and the parent.

4. The student will be suspended from all extracurricular activities and contests for three school weeks that include a minimum of two contests. Student must attend all practices and meetings and must travel with, and watch contests from the bench or sidelines.

Failure to complete all above requirements will result in suspension from extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the current athletic/activity season.

\*\* The above option is not available for students in leadership (e.g., captains, presidents, chairpersons) positions.

**2nd Citation** - Student will be dismissed from all athletic and extracurricular activities, including away activities, for the remainder of the school year.

**3rd Citation** - Student will be dismissed from all athletic and extracurricular activities for the remainder of their high school career.

It is the position of the Port Orford-Langlois School District that students who find themselves in jeopardy because of a substance abuse problem should receive professional assistance. Drug and alcohol counselors are available outside the district. See the counselor to help find locations to best help the student.