

# Pine Valley Central Jr./Sr. High School

## Code of Conduct for Members of Extracurricular Activities and Athletics

### Students and Parents/Guardians:

Participation in the extracurricular programs at Pine Valley Central School is a privilege which should elicit great pride in both the student and his/her family. It is also an acceptance of responsibility which requires an extra commitment from those who wear our school colors and represent their organization, team, coaches, school and community. **Standards of behavior are necessarily high and a willingness to meet these standards is a condition for being a member of one of our organizations/teams.**

### A. Application of the Code

This Code of Conduct will apply to each member of an extracurricular organization and or student athlete for one calendar year (including summer) from the date of his/her most recent signature and will be in effect at all times, in all locations, including non-school activities. Violation of this Code will result in penalties, which are consistent with those identified within the code as determined by the Athletic Director or Administrators. Each advisor/coach also has the prerogative to establish and implement additional guidelines specific to his/her particular team.

All violations of this Code will be cumulative beginning with a student's initial participation in an extracurricular organization and/or athletic team.

### B. Conditions for Participation in Extracurricular Activities or Athletic Teams

Student extracurricular members/athletes are expected to commit themselves to their organization or team, attendance at school and at practices/contests for the duration of the season. When this commitment is not fulfilled, the student's membership and position on the team shall be reviewed by the advisor/coach with the student and a recommendation of action will be made by the advisor/coach to the Athletic Director or Junior/Senior High School Principal for review.

1. All student extracurricular members/athletes must adhere to the District Code of Conduct adopted by The Pine Valley Central School Board of Education.
2. In addition, during the school year or season if a student uses, possesses, sells or remains in the unauthorized presence of tobacco products, alcohol, marijuana, or any controlled substances, including performance-enhanced drugs, he/she will be penalized according to the procedures noted in Section B "Penalties for Non-academic Violations."
3. Student extracurricular members/athletes who are members of any extracurricular organizations/teams are expected to be in school **on time** on a daily basis. Students participating in any athletic or extra-curricular events must be in attendance for one-half (1/2) of the school day or the equivalent of four (4) full periods and have a doctor's note in order to participate in the activity. Student extracurricular members/athletes are expected to attend all practices and contests unless excused by the coach/advisor. It is the student's responsibility to notify the coach/advisor, in advance, of any circumstances which would prohibit attendance at a scheduled activity/practice/event other than absence from school. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action ranging from a verbal warning to dismissal from the team/organization dependent upon the nature and/or frequency of the offense.
4. The extracurricular advisor/coach will establish rules for practice/game attendance and participation. All members will be given a written copy of the rules, and the advisor/coach will review the rules with the team members. All members are expected to comply with and abide by the rules established for their organization/team.

5. As a member of an organization or interscholastic team, it is expected that your top priority is to your organization or team. Participation in non-school related activities or athletic teams in the same time or season of participation is permissible as long as such participation does not conflict with fulfilling your responsibilities to the organization or interscholastic team or violates team rules.
6. We highly recommend our students avoid inappropriate use of social media sites such as Facebook, Myspace, YouTube or any other such sites. Any identifiable image, photo, video or posted on-line conversation (including phone messages) discovered which implicates a student will be investigated.

### **Academic Eligibility**

All students will have their academic progress monitored every five (5) weeks. If any extracurricular member/athlete is failing more than one subject and/or receives an incomplete, they will be placed on the Academic Probation or No Privilege List and the following process will be implemented.

#### **A. Students Failing and/or Receiving an Incomplete in more than one (1) Subject:**

1. For the first occurrence in a school year, the student will be placed on a two-week probationary period. During the probationary period, students are eligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities. The Junior/Senior High School Principal will meet with those students and notify him/her verbally. Parents will be notified in writing. Only one two-week probationary period will be granted during a school year. Grades will be checked at the two-week mark. Subsequent failures in the same school year will result in the immediate suspension of participation privileges in interscholastic contests until the next marking period.
2. At the end of this two-week period, if the student has not raised the quality of work to passing levels in the subjects previously identified as deficient while maintaining passing levels in all other subjects, he/she is ineligible for all participation from the date of verbal notification of ineligibility until the next five-week period. Parents will be notified in writing. (Grades are checked at five-week intervals). Students will always serve a five-week suspension from activities, with the exception of a students placed on probation.
3. Students who have failed or received an incomplete based upon 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and final report card will be placed on the Academic Probation List for the following school year. A new two-week probationary period will again apply, and the parent/guardian will be notified in writing.

The extracurricular member/ athlete will be exempt from this probationary period if he/she attends summer school and achieves passing levels in those courses identified on the final report card as failed or incomplete.

#### **B. Penalties for Non-academic Violations**

Penalties resulting from the violation of the Code will be imposed by the Principal. **Depending on the violation, students will have the option of participating in a cessation program or receive professional assistance. If the student is given this option, he/she will be allowed to participate in all practices and games, permitting they meet the requirements of such program.** In determining appropriate penalties, the Principal shall be guided as follows:

##### **First Offense (Athletics)**

1. Effective on the date when penalties under the code are imposed, the athlete will be placed on probation for one school year. The student will **also be placed on the No Privilege List**. During the period of probation, the athlete will be expected to practice with the team (unless directed otherwise by the coach), but will not be allowed to participate in 25% of the team's scheduled competitions according to the eligibility chart. For example, a player on a team with a 16-game schedule found guilty of smoking would be expected to practice with the team, but would not be permitted to participate in the first four scheduled contests. Students will be expected to attend scheduled competitions and sit with their team. Scrimmages **are not** considered scheduled contests.

- Penalties, which cannot be served during the sport season in which they are imposed, will be carried over for completion in the next sports season in which the athlete participates in and competes. The penalty assigned will be adjusted proportionately based on the number of regular season scheduled contests in the subsequent season.

**Second Offense (Athletics)**

If a second offense occurs during the probationary period, **the athlete shall be removed from participation in all interscholastic athletics for one calendar year beginning on the date the penalty for the second offense is imposed.** The student will also be placed on the No Privilege List.

**ELIGIBILITY CHART**

<b># of Regular Season Scheduled Contests</b>	<b>Contest Penalty First Offense</b>
8	2
9	2
10	2
11	2
12	3
13	3
14	3
15	3
16	4
17	4
18	4
19	4
20	5
21	5
22	5
23	5

**It should be noted, notwithstanding the above chart of penalties, that the facts of an incident may warrant immediate removal from the team if the Athletic Director and the administration believe that the offense committed by the athlete warrants such action.**

**First Offense (Musical, Clubs and Organizations)**

- Effective on the date when penalties under the code are imposed, **the student will be placed on probation for one calendar year.** The student will also be placed on the No Privilege List.
- During the period of probation, the student will be **denied** the privilege to participate in all performances or activities of the organization for twenty (20) school days.

**Second Offense (Musical, Clubs and Organizations)**

- If a second offense occurs during the probationary period, the student shall be removed from participation in **all** extracurricular activities for one calendar year beginning on the date the penalty for the second offense is imposed. The student will also be placed on the No Privilege List.

### C. Self/Parental Referral

Students and parents may employ a *self referral* procedure, allowing the student an avenue to seek guidance, counseling and/or treatment. Pine Valley Central School will maintain a current list of treatment and evaluation providers, which will be available to students and parents who choose to seek our assistance, as well as to any student who violates our Code of Conduct for Members of Extracurricular Activities and Athletics. The cost of assessment and or treatment is the sole responsibility of the student, parent/guardian.

### D. Due Process

Prior to the imposition of any penalty under the Code, the Athletic Director and/or Principal will notify the student extracurricular member/athlete of the nature of the infraction and the athlete will be given an opportunity to explain his/ her side of the issue.

### E. Appeal Procedure

The extracurricular member/athlete and/or parent/guardian has the right to appeal penalties to the Junior/Senior High School Principal. Appeals must be made in writing within three (3) days of assignment of a penalty for a violation of the code.

1. The Junior/Senior High School Principal, Athletic Director and Coach (or Jr./Sr. High School Principal and Advisor) will meet within forty-eight (48) hours upon receipt of a written notice to appeal a penalty unless these individuals are unavailable. In such a circumstance the meeting will convene as soon as these individuals may be assembled.
2. In most cases, the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the written appeal.
3. Upon review of the appeal, the Junior/Senior High School Principal, Athletic Director and Coach (or Jr./Sr. High School Principal and Advisor) will render a decision. The Junior/Senior High School Principal will notify parents of the decision in writing.
4. If the accuser or the accused is dissatisfied with the principal's decision following the hearing, he/she may appeal the decision in writing to the Superintendent of Schools within five (5) days of the principal's decision. The Superintendent's ruling on the appeal will be given within five (5) school days of the submission of the appeal. The student will be allowed to participate in athletics and/or extracurricular activities while the appeal process is taking place.

### F. Distribution of Policy

The advisor/coach will review this policy with all potential participants prior to the first official tryout session. During the tryout period, all participants are subject to all school and athletic policies and conditions under this code.

All student extracurricular members/athletes and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to sign and return the acknowledgement portion of the code to their respective advisor/coach. The signed acknowledgement will be kept on file by the Athletic Director/Advisor and is in effect for any sport/extracurricular activity in which a student participates in a calendar year. **No student will be allowed to participate in any team/organization activities until the signed acknowledgement is returned to the coach/advisor.**

I have read and understand the preceding rules and disciplinary actions concerning athletic and extracurricular participation at Pine Valley Central School. Therefore, my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in school athletics and/or extracurricular activities.

_____ Date	_____ Student Signature
	_____ Parent Signature
Home Address: _____ _____	_____ Telephone

**FOR ATHLETICS ONLY:**

In an effort to inform you about the risk of injury which is inherent in athletic participation, it is mandatory that athlete and parent/guardian attend the film on Informed Consent: The First Step to Participation in Sports and Physical Education. The film is shown to all students in their physical education classes. In addition, this film will be shown to all parents three times per year – prior to the start of the fall, winter and spring sports seasons. These dates will be listed in the school newsletter and on the school’s website: [www.pval.org](http://www.pval.org). This film is mandatory to all athletes and their parent/guardian. You must arrange to view this film if you are unable to attend the scheduled viewing. You may also contact the Athletic Director for this information at 988-3276.

Pine Valley Central School does carry an excess injuries coverage program of athletic insurance. This pays doctor bills, x-rays and miscellaneous bills up to certain limitations. In case of injury requiring a doctor’s care, all bills must be submitted to your Family Health Insurance first. If there is a balance due, copies of payments and balance due may be submitted to the school’s Business Office. The school athletic insurance is a scheduled policy with payments made according to their schedule. All claims over the limitations are the responsibility of the parent.

I have read and understand the risk of injury and insurance policy information concerning athletic participation at Pine Valley Central School. My son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to play sports. I understand that interscholastic athletic participation carries the risk of injury – including severe injuries such as fractures, brain injuries, paralysis or even death.

_____ Date	_____ Student Signature
	_____ Parent Signature
Home Address: _____ _____	_____ Telephone