

DRUG TESTING POLICY

Struthers City Schools

The Struthers City Schools Board of Education Drug Testing Policy was formed because of a concern that alcohol and illicit drugs may be used by Struthers City Schools students. The Struthers City Schools Board of Education desires to implement a policy which will attempt to provide this district with a safe and healthful student program. This policy reflects the Struthers City Schools Board of Education and the community's strong commitment to establish a truly drug and alcohol free school program. Because of the pervasive nature of drug use in our local schools, Struthers City Schools have selected student athletes, student drivers, and students who, along with consent from their parents, volunteer to be tested, for inclusion in the testing pool. This policy applies to all athletes, volunteers, and student drivers from grades 7-12.

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY SHALL BE:

1. To provide a healthy and safe environment to all students participating in the athletic program.
2. To discourage all students from using drugs and alcohol.
 - a. Students will assume all responsibility for regulating their personal lives in ways that will result in their becoming healthful members of a team and worthy representatives of the school and community.
3. To provide students with the opportunity to become leaders in the student body for a drug free school.
4. To provide solutions for the student who does use drugs and alcohol.
5. To provide the school with positive guidelines and disciplinary policies for violations of the drug free policy.
6. To encourage those students who participate in athletic programs and student drivers to remain drug free and alcohol free.

The program does not affect the current policies, practices, or rights of the District regarding student drug and/or alcohol possession or use, where reasonable suspicion by means other than drug testing through this policy. The drug testing policy is non punitive.

Students involved in athletic activities need to be exemplary in the eyes of the community and other students. The drug testing and education policy is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed. Although students risk the loss of continued participation in athletic activities, no student shall be suspended or expelled from school as a result of a certified "positive" test conducted by his/her school under this program.

No student will be penalized academically for testing positive for banned substances. The results of drug tests will not be documented in any student's academic records.

DEFINITIONS

1. **STUDENT ATHLETE**
Any person participating in the Struthers City Schools High School athletic program and/or contests under the control and jurisdiction of the Struthers City Schools and/or the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). This policy also includes cheerleaders.
2. **ATHLETIC SEASON**
In-season start dates will begin as published by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and continue until the completion of awards program for that sport for the Struthers City Schools. There are three athletic seasons: Fall, Winter, Spring.
3. **RANDOM SELECTION**
A system of selecting athletes for drug and alcohol testing in which each athlete shall have a fair and equitable chance of being selected each time selections are required.
4. **ILLEGAL/ILLICIT DRUGS**
Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, give, exchange, use, distribute, or purchase under State or Federal Law. This definition also includes all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used in any way other than for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided for in the prescription or by the manufacturer. We may also test for Nicotine and Steroids.
5. **ALCOHOL**
Any intoxicating liquor, beer, wine, mixed beverage, or malt liquor beverage as defined in the Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.01. The term "alcoholic beverage" includes any liquid or substance, such as "near beer" which contains alcohol in any proportion or percentage. The term "alcoholic beverage" does not include a substance used for medical purposes in accordance with directions for use provided in a prescription or by the manufacturer and in accordance with school district policy and rules related to the use of prescription and non-prescription drugs, provided the substance is a) authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container, which shall state the student's name and directions for use or b) an over-the-counter medicine.

TYPES OF TESTING

1. **TEAM TESTING**
At the beginning of each season, all eligible students will submit to urine drug and alcohol testing. This testing will be completed within the first two weeks of the season on a specified date and time. The collection process will take place on school property or at a Board of Education approved testing facility. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that all student athletes and their parent/guardian/custodian properly sign the INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT prior to testing. Any student moving into the District shall be tested prior to the time he/she joins the team.

2. **RANDOM TESTING**

Random testing shall be done throughout the year. We will test up to 20% of eligible students in each random selection. A student may be tested more than once per season. In the event of a non-negative result, the specimen will be sent to a laboratory for confirmation of results and a certified Medical Review Officer will determine the results.

a. Random selection of student athletes:

The Athletic Director, under the Principal's supervision, will use a system to ensure that students are selected in a random fashion. This system may include computer generated random numbers or names or by pulling numbers from a pool of numbers equal to the number of eligible student athletes.

b. Scheduling of random testing:

Random testing will be unannounced. The day and date will be selected by the Athletic Director and confirmed with the building administrator. Random testing may be done weekly.

3. **DRUGS FOR WHICH ATHLETES MAY BE TESTED:**

LSD, Alcohol, Marijuana, Amphetamines, Methadone, Anabolic Steroids, Methaqualone, Barbiturates, Nicotine (Tobacco), Benzodiazepines, Opiates, Cocaine, Propoxyphene (Darvon), or Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, give, exchange, use, distribute, or purchase under State or Federal Law. This definition also includes all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used in any way other than for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided for in the prescription or by the manufacturer.

4. **COLLECTION PROCESS (Urine Screens)**

The student will be notified to report to the collection site. A specimen from the student will be collected as follows and all students must follow this process:

All students must have a picture ID or be identified by the Athletic Director or Principal. No exceptions will be allowed.

Drug testing area must be secured during the testing.

Only lab technicians and students will be witness to the test.

Privacy must be kept for all students.

The Athletic Director is responsible for ensuring that all of the forms are completed and signed by both parent/guardian/custodian and student. No student is to enter the collection site until forms, money and proper ID are completed.

When students arrive and cannot give a sample, they will need to start drinking water, pop or juice. After 36 oz. the human body will need to urinate.

No bags, backpacks, purses, cups, containers or drinks will be allowed to enter the collection area. All coats, vests, jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves or baggy clothing must be removed before entering the collection site. Only pants and t-shirts or dresses may be worn in the collection area.

Students processed by the lab technician who cannot produce a sample will be kept in a secured area to wait until they can test. If they leave this area they will not be allowed to test. They are not to have contact with anyone until after the sample is given.

Students will be asked to hold out their hands and a sanitizer will be put on their hands or will wash hands with water. The bathroom personnel will add a dye to the toilet.

Students will be asked to urinate directly into the collection cup given to them by the lab personnel. The lab technician will stand outside the stall and listen for normal sounds of urination.

Any and all alteration of the specimen will be detected and considered the same as a test refusal or 1st time infraction. (The lab checks every sample for alteration, such as additives you drink or add to urine to change the sample.)

Alterations: We will treat alterations and diluted samples as first time offenses. They are not called positives but have the same consequences. A retest will be required within 24 hours.

Any suspicion of tampering with the sample will be brought to the tester's attention. The sample will be sent to the lab for immediate confirmation of tampering.

The sample must be taken in one attempt and be at least 30 ml in size. The student must hand the cup to the lab technician.

Students are not to flush the toilets or urinals. In the event that a student flushes the toilet he or she will be required to give a new sample immediately or the sample will be invalid.

With student watching, the lab technician will recap the sample and hand it to the student who must then return it to the intake technician. In the event that the student does not hand the cup directly to the intake technician, the sample is invalid and a new sample must be taken. If the student leaves the collection area or has contact with anyone, the sample will be invalid and the student will have to give another sample.

This collection procedure is subject to change because of procedural requirements by the testing agency. The School Board reserves the right to change the collection procedure to coincide with the testing guidelines set forth by the testing agency.

When using rapid screens, all non-negative screens will be sent out with a chain of custody to a certified laboratory for confirmation. A Certified Medical Review Officer will verify the positive test.

5. RESULTS OF A POSITIVE TEST

Any positive urine drug test results will be made known to the building administrator, who in turn, will notify the parents/guardians/custodians and student.

6. IF A POSITIVE TEST OCCURS:

Please refer to the disciplinary actions in the Student & Parent Athletic Handbook.

Violations are accumulative throughout the student's secondary school career.

(Grades 9-12)

7. SELF-REFERRALS

An athlete may give a once a year self referral, which may be done only twice in 4 years. Self-referrals can only happen before a test is done. Counseling and additional testing are required. **Please refer to information provided in the Student & Parent Athletic Handbook.**

Struthers City Schools INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT

STUDENT NAME _____

GRADE _____

AS A STUDENT:

- I understand and agree that participation in athletic activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the Struthers City Schools Drug Testing Policy.
- I have read the Drug Testing Policy and thoroughly understand the consequences that I will face if I do not honor my commitment to the Drug Testing Policy.
- I understand that when I participate in any athletic program I will be subject to initial and random urine drug & alcohol testing, and if I refuse, I will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic activities. I have read the informed consent agreement and agree to its terms.
- I understand this agreement is binding while I am a student in the Struthers City Schools system.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN:

- I have read the Struthers City Schools district drug testing policy and understand the responsibilities of my son/daughter/ward as a participant in athletic activities in the Struthers City Schools district.
- I pledge to promote healthy lifestyles for all student athletes in the Struthers City Schools system.
- I understand that my son/daughter/ward, when participating in any athletic program, will be subject to initial and random urine drug and alcohol testing, and if he/she refuses, will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic activities. I have read the informed Consent Agreement and agree to its terms.
- I understand this agreement is binding while my son/daughter/ward is a participant in athletics in the Struthers City Schools district.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN PRINTED NAME

WORK PHONE

_____ 1st season \$20

_____ 2nd season \$10

_____ 3rd season \$0

Check # _____

Cash _____

INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT

We hereby consent to allow the student named on the reverse side to undergo urinalysis testing for the presence of illicit drugs, alcohol, or banned substances in accordance with Policy and Procedures for Drug Testing of the Struthers City Schools District.

We understand that testing will be administered in accordance with the guidelines of the Struthers City Schools District Drug Testing Policy for student athletes.

We understand that any urine sample taken for drug testing will be tested only by a Board approved company.

We hereby give our consent to the company selected by the Struthers City Schools School Board of Education, its employees, or agents, together with any company, hospital, or laboratory designated to perform urinalysis testing for the detection of drugs.

We further give our consent to the company selected by the Struthers City Schools Board of Education, its employees, or agents, to release all results of these tests to designated School District employees or agents. We understand that these results will also be available to us upon request.

I, the student, hereby authorize the release of the results of such testing to my parent/guardian/custodian.

We hereby release the Struthers City Schools Board or Education, its employees or agents from any legal responsibility or liability for the release of such information and records.

This will be deemed consent pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. 1232g as amended, and the Ohio Revised Code 3319.321, for the release of the test results as authorized by the Informed Consent Agreement or as required by law.