

Collinsville High School Athletics Drug Testing Policy & Procedures

The Athletic Department believes that the use of alcohol or drugs by students who participate in interscholastic athletics presents a particular hazard to the health, safety and welfare of the student athlete and to those who compete with the athlete. Collinsville High School encourages students to participate in interscholastic athletics, but believes the opportunity to try-out and participate in school-sponsored interscholastic athletics is not an absolute right. Rather, it is a privilege offered to eligible students on an equal opportunity basis. To be eligible to try-out for or to participate in any school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program, students must agree to submit to testing for the use of drugs, if selected, in accordance with this policy.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health, welfare and safety of students engaged in interscholastic athletics. It is to better assure the student athlete's health and physical fitness to participate in athletics and not to provide means by which the district may use to punish a student athlete other than by disqualification from participation in interscholastic athletics. Accordingly, the results of any drug test administered under this policy shall be used only for the determination of eligibility to try-out for and participate in interscholastic athletics and for no other disciplinary purpose.

Definitions

- A. Interscholastic Athletics: Any interscholastic athletic competition representing CHS, sponsored or conducted by the District, for students who participate voluntarily and for which no academic credit or grades are awarded.
- B. Student Athlete: Any student who is trying out for or participating in any school-sponsored interscholastic athletic competition.
- C. Alcohol: Any liquor, wine, beer or other drink containing alcohol.
- D. Drugs: Amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cocaine metabolite, marijuana metabolite, methadone, opiates, phencyclidine, nicotine, and methamphetamines, except when taken pursuant to a legal prescription issued by a licensed physician.
- E. Under the Influence: The existence of 40 nanograms of alcohol or of an illegal drug in the bloodstream.

Prohibited Conduct

Student athletes shall not at any time use, possess, sell, distribute or be under the influence of any illegal drug, anabolic steroid or alcohol while a member of any school-sponsored interscholastic athletic team.

Consent Form

In order to try-out for or to participate in any school-sponsored interscholastic athletic competition, the student athlete must read this policy and sign a consent form by which the student athlete agrees that as a condition of participation in school interscholastic athletics, he/she will be eligible for the drug, alcohol and steroid testing program outlined in this procedure. This consent form must also be signed by the student's parents or guardians in advance of the tryouts for a specific sport. The consent form will be valid for the current school year, including the following summer, and must be renewed annually.

Non-Compliance

If the student-athlete or his/her parents or guardians refuse to sign the consent form, the student will not be permitted to be a member of a team. Also during the season, if the student athlete refuses to be tested when selected, the athlete will be dropped from the team.

After the conclusion of the season during which he/she was dropped from the team for non-compliance, the student may ask to be tested at the family's expense. If the test results are negative, the student athlete will again be eligible.

Confidentiality

The results of any test administered under the terms of this policy shall be kept confidential and disclosed only to the student athlete, his/her parents or guardians, personnel of the drug testing facility, and school officials designated by the Superintendent. The results of the testing shall not be used as a basis of disciplinary action other than disqualification as provided for in this policy and procedure. The test results will not be part of the student athlete's permanent record but will be kept in a secure file in the Athletic Training Room.

Random Selection of Athletes for Testing

At the beginning of each sport's season, a list of all eligible student athletes will be submitted to the drug testing facility. Each name will be assigned an identification number. On the day of testing, the testing facility will randomly select ID numbers. The list of numbers and corresponding names will then be delivered to the Athletic Director & Athletic Trainer.

Testing will occur randomly four times over the course of each athletic season. Up to four student athletes will be tested on each testing date. This amounts to possible sixteen tests per season and forty-eight tests over the course of the school year. Random testing will not occur on the same day each week.

Selected athletes will be summoned to report to the main office at some time during the morning on the day of testing. The athlete will be escorted to the testing site by the Athletic Trainer.

Testing Procedures

A licensed medical facility selected by the Athletic Department shall take every reasonable precaution to collect an unadulterated specimen during the collection process and will provide an accurate chain of custody for each and every specimen. Testing & samples will be handled entirely by the testing facility.

Urine, saliva or hair testing may be conducted.

Test Results

All test results will remain confidential. Only the Athletic Director, Athletic Trainer & school Principal will have access to test results.

No notification shall be made for negative test results.

If a sample results in a positive test, the results will be verified by the testing facility. The student athlete and his/her parents or guardians will then be contacted by the testing facility's medical review officer for further verification. Once a positive test has been confirmed school personnel will be notified of the infraction.

If the test results are positive, the athlete will be suspended from competition for 21 days. The athlete must meet with a qualified chemical dependency counselor.

The chemical dependency counselor will secure the necessary release of information and make recommendations to the parents or guardians and the district student assistance coordinator regarding the athlete's chemical dependency assessment and treatment recommendations. If the recommendations indicate that the student is not chemically dependent and does not require treatment, the athlete will be permitted to remain on the team and be re-tested in 21 days. The athlete will be suspended from competitive events but allowed to practice. If it is concluded that the athlete is chemically dependent and does require treatment, the athlete will not be permitted to practice or compete for 21 days after which time the student will be re-tested. The student assistance coordinator will inform the Athletic Director as soon as possible regarding the status of the athlete.

If the parents or guardians and athlete refuse to go for an assessment interview, it will be considered a first violation and a minimum two-week suspension from the athletic program will be imposed in addition to the 21 days listed above. If at the end of the two weeks, the athlete has still not completed an assessment interview, the suspension will continue for four weeks. If, at the end of four weeks, the athlete has not completed the assessment phase he/she will be suspended from the athletic program for one calendar year from that date. At the assessment interview, if the chemical dependency counselor recommends in-patient or out-patient treatment and the athlete and his/her parents or guardians choose not to take the recommendations, then there will be a four week suspension from the athletic program. At the end of the four weeks, there must be a conference. The invited participants will be the athlete, the Athletic Director, the district student assistance coordinator and the parents or guardians. During this conference, a decision will be made concerning the remainder of the student's eligibility; i.e., whether the athlete will be re-tested or whether the suspension will continue.

Re-testing

The student athlete will have an opportunity within twenty-four hours of the notification of the positive test results to be re-tested (using one-half of the original sample) in a federally licensed laboratory of the family's choice and at the family's expense. The Athletic Director may consult the medical professionals to evaluate the results of the re-test, taking into consideration any evidence offered by the student. Should the test be confirmed as positive, and there is not a satisfactory explanation for the positive results, the student athlete will have twenty-four hours to complete an assessment interview.

Enforcement

Nothing contained in this policy shall prohibit or limit the application of the District's regular student disciplinary rules and regulations to student athletes. The provisions of the policy are considered an addition to all other rules and regulations governing student conduct and discipline.

Hearing Rights

The parents or guardians of the student athlete charged with violation of the rules of this policy and procedures shall be given thirty-six hours for an opportunity for a hearing before the Athletic Committee. The Athletic Director shall present the evidence of an alleged violation to the student and give the student an opportunity to respond to the charge. The Committee shall give an interpretation on the issue in question and shall submit the ruling to the Principal whose decision shall be final.

Expenses

Funding for this program will be by the Athletic Department.

IHSA Steroid Testing Policy

In January 2008, the Illinois High School Association's Board of Directors approved a plan developed by the IHSA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to implement random testing for steroids and performance-enhancing dietary supplements of teams and individuals qualifying for state series competition.

Any student-athlete who ingests or otherwise uses any of the banned substances on the association's banned list, without written prescription by a licensed physician, to treat a medical condition, violates IHSA Bylaw 2.170 and its subsections, and is subject to IHSA penalties, including ineligibility from competition. The IHSA will test certain randomly selected individuals and teams that participate in state series competitions for banned substances. The results of all tests shall be considered confidential and shall only be disclosed to the student, his/her parents, and his/her school officials.

Student athletes competing in a state series must sign a consent form along with his/her parent or guardian. This consent is with the understanding that the student or student's team may be subject to testing for banned substance in accordance with the IHSA's steroid testing policy. No student-athlete may participate in IHSA state series competition unless the student and the student's parent or guardian consents to random testing.

The current IHSA Banned Substance List may be accessed at www.ihsa.org