

Carmel High School Marching Greyhounds Code of Conduct for Student Members 2021 – 2022 School Year

Participation in the Marching Band is a privilege that carries with it varying degrees of responsibility, recognition, and reward. Participating students represent their school and other members of the student body, and it is their duty to conduct themselves in a manner that is positive for themselves, their families, their school, and their community. As rationale for all Marching Band participation rules, see the following statement based in part on The Indiana High School Athletic Association By-Law C-8-1:

Performers conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon their school or the group, or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school.

The following rules shall apply to all instrumentalists, color guard members, student leadership staff, or any other Carmel Clay student associated with the Marching Band in grades 6 through 12. Performer conduct and behavior between seasons is important. The following rules apply at all times throughout the calendar year. Consequences for violations are cumulative, beginning with the 6th grade and ending with graduation from high school. The Director of Bands may distribute additional rules that are also valid and must be followed by students involved in the activity.

1. AN ACT WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE A FELONY, MISDEMEANOR, ACT OF DELINQUENCY OR STATUS OFFENSE.

Maximum Penalty: Exclusion from Marching Band and possibly other band related ensembles (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Wind/Percussion Section of Orchestra, etc.) for 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the violation is determined. The penalty is to be determined by the principal. Any student arrested or detained as a juvenile on such a charge may be suspended from any participation pending investigation of the incident.

This offense may be included toward the three step consequences stated below for a drug, alcohol, or tobacco violation.

Rationale: See statement above based in part on IHSAA By-Law C-8-1:

2. USE, CONSUMPTION OR POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (DRUGS) or ALCOHOL (EXCEPT AS PRESCRIBED MEDICALLY BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN), OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS (ANY FORM).

Penalty:

First Violation: The student shall be excluded from Marching Band performances and possibly other band related performances (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Wind/Percussion Section of Orchestra, etc.) for 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the violation is confirmed.

- a. **Rehabilitation:** The student may reduce the penalty to 50% of performances within a current or upcoming season by submitting to a substance abuse program of assessment, counseling, screening and/or indicated therapy. The program must have been approved by the Student Assistance coordinator and may include a recommendation for parent or guardian participation. The cost of the program is the responsibility of the student and/or his parents or guardians. The student will serve the remainder of the entire 365 day suspension beginning with notification from the Student Assistance Coordinator that the student has violated any of the stated conditions of the substance abuse program.
- b. **Self-reporting:** The total penalty will be reduced to 25% of performances within a current or upcoming season if both of the following occur.
 - i. The student or the student's parents (or guardians) report the violation to the Director of Bands or an Assistant director within 48 hours of the violation or prior to the next performance, whichever occurs first; prior to the independent confirmation of a violation.
 - ii. The student submits to a substance abuse program as described above.

Second Violation: The student shall be excluded from all Marching Band performances and possibly other band related performances (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Wind/Percussion Section of Orchestra, etc.) for 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the violation is confirmed.

Third violation: The student shall be excluded from all band related performances and possibly other band related performances (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Wind/Percussion Section of Orchestra, etc.) for the remainder of their secondary school years (grades 6-12) from the day that the violation is confirmed.

Rationale: The use or possession of controlled substances (drugs) and/or alcohol is prohibited by law. Their use reduces physical and mental performance, and is injurious to one's health. Furthermore, the use of tobacco is injurious to one's health and in many cases is prohibited by law.

3. VIOLATION OF SCHOOL RULES.

Penalty: Students may not rehearse, perform or participate in any way with the Marching Band during a suspension from school. Less serious violations of school rules are to be handled by the Director of Bands.

4. PROBATION.

Any student who violates any provision of this policy may be placed on probation for a period of 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the violation is confirmed. A student may be placed on probation for a violation of the Marching Band Code of Conduct unless it is a drug, alcohol or tobacco offense. A second or subsequent violation of any rule (not already covered in the Marching Band Code of Conduct) while on probation may result in the student being excluded from all rehearsals and performances for up to 365 days from the day that the second or subsequent violation is confirmed.

5. SUSPENSION.

For the purpose of determining the length of a suspension under this policy, a "marching band season" shall be defined as the actual number of contests and/or performances scheduled. Appropriate percentages shall be rounded to the nearest whole number. Suspensions under this policy will take effect immediately upon the verification of any violation and will include performances in succession, including all invitationals, Bands of America Regionals and Grand Nationals and any other scheduled Marching Band competition and/or performance. Suspensions which cannot be fully served during the current season, may be carried over to the next season in which the student successfully completes (i.e., a performer may not quit or be removed from the Marching Band and count the suspension served during that time). A student who is serving a suspension at the end of any season is not eligible for any awards. A suspended student may continue to practice with the band and travel with the band to competitions (in street clothes) at the discretion of the Director of Bands. Any suspension enacted at the beginning of the season will include any preseason exhibition performances.

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Please note that any violation of the Marching Band Code of Conduct could also affect a student's participation in any band related ensemble if such action is deemed warranted by the high school principal (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Wind/Percussion Section of Orchestra, etc.).

Here is a practical example of how the Code of Conduct might be enforced: A student in Marching Band is caught drinking at a party and agrees to participate in a substance abuse program. The student receives a 50% suspension with only 3 performances left in the season (approximately 25% of Marching band season). The suspension would then carry over to the first 3 performances of the following season (approximately 25% of Marching Band season). In other words, the student would serve $\frac{1}{2}$ of the suspension this season and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the suspension at the beginning of the following season.

For the purposes of this rule, the only summer activity considered a performance is the Carmel Independence Day Parade in July. Participation in high school summer rehearsals by a student with a confirmed violation will be at the discretion of the Director of Bands.

Length of suspensions for a second or subsequent violation may be reviewed and amended by the high school administration if the previous offenses occurred at the middle school level.