

## THE COVENANT SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINING POLICY

Success in athletics is determined by each member of the team performing up to his/her potential by trying to achieve the best possible mental and physical condition. This responsibility begins with the first practice, continues throughout the season(s), and ends with turning in all uniforms and Covenant equipment.

This policy is intended to help our students make appropriate decisions as they grow to maturity. There are consequences to our choices. This athletic policy does not replace the general school rules which are handled by the school administration. The Covenant School's athletic training policy **prohibits the possession, use, or distribution** of:

- a) drugs (other than those prescribed for you by a physician);
- b) alcoholic beverages;
- c) tobacco in any form (including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, dip, etc.). Even though Virginia law allows 18 year olds to possess and use tobacco, Covenant athletes may not do so.

### **For all violations:**

1. The Covenant School may require an evaluation by a licensed substance abuse counselor and/or substance abuse testing before an athlete represents the school in uniform again.
2. Before the student-athlete is allowed to return he/she must interview with the Athletic Director and Head Coach and provide assurance that appropriate lessons have been learned.
3. Eligibility for a varsity letter, captaincy, and athletic awards for **any** violation will be determined by the Athletic Director.
4. Should an inquiry into a possible violation by the student-athlete begin, the student is expected to be honest and forthcoming. Any attempt at deceit or hindering of the inquiry by the student-athlete may cause the forfeiture of Level One punishment and result in an Honor violation. The student may then be sanctioned at a higher level at the discretion of the Athletic Director and the administration.

**Voluntary Disclosure Clause:** As stated on page 6 of the Student-Parent Handbook: "A student who voluntarily discloses that student's personal substance abuse problem to a Teacher or Administrator prior to any evidence of a violation discovered by school officials or law enforcement will be considered a treatment issue by the school, although disciplinary measures may be taken. The school does not have the resources to treat substance abuse problems but will endeavor to support the treatment program selected by the parent(s). Failure to complete treatment measures to the satisfaction of the school may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion."

**First Violation (Level One):** Any athlete in violation of this policy for the first time will immediately forfeit participation in all games and scrimmages for a **minimum** of 21 calendar days beginning with the first day the student is suspended from participation. The student may not practice with the team for the first seven calendar days of suspension. For the remainder of the suspension, the student's participation at practice will be determined by the Athletic Director.

**Second Violation (Level Two):** Should a student-athlete violate the athletic training policy a second time in his/her upper school athletic career (grades 7-12), the student will at a **minimum** forfeit the remainder of that season. If there are less than 30 calendar days left in the team's season, including playoffs the team qualifies for, this suspension will continue into the subsequent season the student-athlete plays for Covenant, and will result in a total suspension from wearing a Covenant uniform in a game or scrimmage for 30 calendar days.

**Third Violation (Level Three):** Should a student-athlete violate the athletic training policy a third time in his/her upper school career (grades 7-12), it will result in forfeiture of all athletic participation for a **minimum** of one full year (365 days).

## **THE COVENANT SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINING AGREEMENT**

The student signature below indicates:

- a) the student's willingness to place himself/herself under Covenant's athletic training policy, (attached) and
- b) the student has received and read "The Covenant Way" (attached), and
- c) the student has addressed any questions about athletic policies with their Head Coach.

The parent signature indicates acceptance of The Covenant School athletic training policy.

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**Player's Printed Name**

**Player's signature**

**Date**

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**Parent's signature**

**Date**

**Please have your child return this signed page to their Coach at their earliest convenience. This page must be on file in the Athletic Office before a student is allowed to participate in a scrimmage or game.**