

Carmel High School
William H. Duke Center for the Performing Arts

Code of Conduct
for Performing Arts Ensemble Student Members

Participation in a performing arts ensemble 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. The following code of conduct rules shall apply at all times throughout the calendar year. These violations will result in discipline which may include suspension or removal from the activity, group, leadership position, or team. As rationale for all performing arts ensemble 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, actors, singers, color guard members, cast members, student leadership staff, student crews or any other Carmel Clay student associated with the ensemble in grades 6 through 12. The following rules apply at all times throughout the school year for music and color guard co-curricular classes and during the "season" for ensembles such as the cast of a production, student crews, etc. The Director of each group 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 all ensemble performances and other related ensemble performances within a specified division (band, theatre, choir or orchestra) for 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the violation is determined. The penalty is to be determined by the Director of the group. 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) (EXCEPT AS PRESCRIBED MEDICALLY BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN), ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS (ANY FORM).**

Penalty:

First Violation: The student shall be excluded from all ensemble performances and other related ensemble performances within a specified division (band, choir, theatre or orchestra) 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.
 1. The student or the student's parents (or guardians) report the violation to the Director (or an Assistant Director) of the group within 48 hours of the violation or prior to the next performance, whichever occurs first; prior to their independent confirmation of a violation.
 2. The student submits to a substance abuse program as described above.

Second Violation: The student shall be excluded from all ensemble performances and other related ensemble performances within a specified division (band, choir, theatre or orchestra) for 365 days (one calendar year) from the day that the second violation is confirmed.

Third Violation: The student shall be excluded from all ensemble performances and other related ensemble performances within a specified division (band, choir, theatre or orchestra) for the remainder of their secondary school years (grades 9 - 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. THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY A STUDENT CONSIDERED TO BE "UNBECOMING OF A GREYHOUND" OR THE USE OF HAZING.

Penalty: I/we understand the policy and guidelines pertaining to the prohibition of hazing and/or dangerous initiation activities. I/we understand that if I am found in violation of the policy I will be subjected to the most serious of sanctions, including suspension from the ensemble and school disciplinary actions.

4. VIOLATIONS OF SCHOOL RULES.

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

5. 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 Performing Arts 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 Performing Arts Code of Conduct) while on probation may result in the student being excluded from all performances for up to 365 days from the day that the second or subsequent violation is confirmed.

6. SUSPENSION

For the purpose of determining the length of a suspension under this policy, an ensemble's "season" shall be defined as the school year unless it is the cast for a production or a student crew, etc. In that case the "season" will be defined as starting when the individual is assigned to a cast or a crew and ending at the completion of the last performance or ensemble (or crew) meeting or strike. 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 concerts on school grounds or at other venues off school grounds, competitions and any other scheduled exhibition 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 ensemble 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 ensemble and travel with the ensemble on trips and to performances (in street clothes) at the discretion of the Director of the ensemble. Any suspension enacted at the beginning of the season will include any preseason exhibition performances.

Please note that any violation of the Performing Arts Code of Conduct could also effect a student's participation in any related ensemble within that division (Band, Choir, Theatre and Orchestra).

Here is a practical example of how the Code of Conduct might be enforced: A student is caught drinking at a party and agrees to participate in a substance abuse program. The student (who happens to be a member of a choir) receives a 50% suspension with only 1 performance (approx. 25% of the performance season for that group) remaining in the school year. The suspension would carry over to the first choir performance (25% of the performance season) of the following year. In other words, the student would serve a 25% suspension in any choir in which he or she participates in the following year in order to complete the suspension.

For the purposes of this rule, summer activities considered performances will be deemed so by the Director of the ensemble. Participation in high school summer rehearsals by a student with a confirmed violation will be at the discretion of the Director of the ensemble.

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.

I/we authorize Carmel High School to investigate and obtain information from police agencies, the probation department, or any other source regarding the events leading up to any arrest or filing of charges for an act which would be in violation of any of the rules and regulations as stated in the Code of Conduct and Student Handbook.

I (we) have read and understand the policies stated above:

Student Name (PRINTED NEATLY)_____

Student signature_____ Date_____

Parent signature_____ Date_____

