

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THORP
ACTIVITIES CODE
2024 - 2025

Revised September, 2021

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THORP
ACTIVITES CODE**

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School District of Thorp Activities Code

The activities program at the School District of Thorp is an important extension of the student's total educational experience. As a vital part of the school program, the activities programs provide daily learning experiences in human relations that are difficult to duplicate in any other area of a student's education.

Participation in activities is a **privilege** that carries the responsibility of representing the school and the community.

The School District of Thorp expects its students to be positive leaders within the student body. They are expected to set good examples in all areas of school life, including scholarship, personal appearance and attitudes of respect toward and cooperation with those in authority and their fellow students.

As representatives of the entire student body, activities students are looked to as role models by younger students. Therefore, the personal grooming, language, and decorum of these students must be such that it brings credit to him/herself, family, school and community.

Parents/Guardians are the greatest role models for a young person. The School District of Thorp seeks parental assistance to help develop outstanding young men and women who possess the self-discipline and motivation to make a difference in the world. 1) The administration, faculty, staff, advisors, and coaches ask that parents/guardians be supportive of the programs and personnel at Thorp Schools and demonstrate that support by respecting the decisions and efforts of the advisors/coaches who work with our young people. 2) Parental assistance is also required in enforcing this code so that a fair and healthy environment will exist for all students. 3) While spectators at any event, whether at Thorp or any other site, parents/guardians are expected to display good sportsmanship. An individual or group who willfully interferes with or interrupts the proper order or management of a school-sponsored event by any act of violence, boisterous conduct, inappropriate gestures, threatening language, or unsportsmanlike conduct toward advisors, coaches, players or officials, or disobeys school board policies or administrative rules may be removed from the event and may be prohibited from further attendance. **The Parent Sportsmanship Pledge contained within this code defines expected behavior and must be signed by parents of their student each year.**

I. Applicability/Duration:

- A. The code is applicable to all students in grades 6-12.
- B. It will be in effect from the initial signing through student's high school graduation and completion of the spring activity season. The code is in effect during any off-season periods as well as summer months.
- C. The Code will be signed once each year to reaffirm understanding and commitment along with any changes or updates.

- D. An athlete may only participate in one sport per season. Student-athletes may be granted a waiver to this rule only if they meet the following criteria:

1. They have never received a failing semester grade in middle or high school.
2. They have never violated the Athletic Code.
3. They have written approval by their parent or guardian.
4. They have written approval by both coaches including a description of how practice time and contests will be balanced, including how conflicting schedules will be handled.
5. They have obtained written approval from the Athletic Director.
6. They have obtained written approval from the High School Principal.
7. They have obtained written approval from the Superintendent.

This privilege may be revoked at any time at the discretion of the Athletic Director or the High School Principal. An appeal may be made to the Superintendent within 10 days of notification.

II. Student's Responsibilities:

- A. All athletes enrolled in physical education classes shall be active participants in those classes. Athletes who have an **excuse** from a licensed medical practitioner **to not participate in physical education** shall **likewise be ineligible to participate in athletic practice and competition** for the duration of the excuse.
- B. The office will inform head coaches of students with medical excuses. Appeals for unusual circumstances shall be directed to the activities director.
- C. Each advisor/coach may set reasonable dress (following school dress code) expectations for their students on the days of an appearance at contests.
- D. All students as a unit must ride to and from contest sites on the bus provided unless their parents, upon face-to-face contact with the advisor/coach and a written note, make an arrangement to pick up their son/daughter. In the event a student rides home with someone other than parent, guardian, or grandparent, a permission slip must be signed by school administration. Exceptions may be granted by the building principal and in such cases, it is the responsibility of the student and principal to notify the head advisor/coach.
- E. Each student is responsible for keeping their locker and the locker room clean and presentable at all times. Profanity, displays of anger, horseplay and/or harassment of any kind shall not be tolerated in the locker room at any time. All advisors/coaches will hold all of their students responsible for the proper disposition of used towels, discarded wrappings, etc., before the locker room is vacated for that day's activity.
- F. Each student shall be held responsible for the equipment issued to him/her. Such equipment must be returned in good condition. No part of that equipment may be worn or used outside of practice, performance, or contest for that particular activity without express permission from

the advisor/coach. Theft or vandalism of the School District of Thorp property or that of any other school is a violation of the activities code as well as a serious legal offense.

- G. Until all equipment has been returned or bills paid relating to that equipment, the student can not participate in any other activity and no earned letters, honors, or scholarships will be awarded.
- H. An athlete **may not** quit one activity and begin another during the same season except by mutual agreement of the head advisor/coaches involved. The activities director may evaluate extenuating circumstances.
- I. A student wishing to drop out of any activity for any reason is expected to **FIRST** discuss the decision with the advisor/coach of that activity. In extenuating circumstances, the discussion may be held with the activities director.
- J. If the decision is made to drop out of an activity, the student is personally responsible for all equipment that was issued to him/her and must return it to the head advisor/coach of that activity within two (2) weeks. Any equipment not returned must be paid for.

III. Eligibility:

A. WIAA:

- 1. All athletes must meet WIAA eligibility standards.
- 2. Before an athlete may participate in any manner, he/she must have on file a current and properly signed:
 - a) WIAA physical or alternate year card
 - b) Activities pledge
 - c) Concussion Education Agreement
- 3. Each head advisor/coach shall supervise the administration of this important function and shall provide the activities director with a complete roster of all their teams.

B. Academic:

- 1. Students shall be academically ineligible for the following reasons:
 - a) One (1) failing deficiency will make a student ineligible until he/she is again doing passing work in all their classes.
 - b) A student receiving one "F" or "I" for a grade period (May include Summer Grade Period) will be ineligible for 15 scheduled school days and nights. Fall Eligibility. When the earliest allowed WIAA game/meet takes place before the first day of classes at a member school, "the maximum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of: a) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of the earliest allowed competition in a sport; or b) one third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction)." In those instances where a member school has begun fall

classes on or before the date of the earliest allowed WIAA game/meet in a sport, ineligible students in these situations are subject to the standard rule applied when school is in session (15 scheduled school days and nights). In this situation, eligibility is regained on the school day following the period of ineligibility (16th school day). Note 1: An inter school scrimmage does NOT count as a game or meet for purposes of this rule. Note 2: If a multi-school meet is counted on your schedule as one meet, it also counts as one meet as it applies to the number of meets an ineligible student must sit out. Note 3: Games/meets at different levels of competition (varsity, JV, freshmen) may NOT be combined to reach the number of meets an athlete must sit out. See Link below.

c) [Fall Sports – Academic Ineligibility](#)

2. Students may regain their eligibility in the manner described below.
 - a) The ineligible student must secure an Academic Progress Report from the office.
 - b) The progress report **will be returned** to the principal/athletic director with the signature(s) of the classroom teacher(s) where the deficiency(ies) occurred, indicating that the student is currently passing.

Interpretation: The intent is not to punish the student, but to encourage and assist the student to overcome academic deficiency by providing both time to study or obtain additional help, and a quick return to eligibility.

Therefore: The minimum academic eligibility standard is:

- a) The student may not have a failing grade or a failing deficiency.
- b) The student does not drop a class to regain eligibility except under advisement of the teacher.
- c) The teacher decides when the student's work is again passing except as otherwise stated.
- d) Advisors/coaches are expected to check on and encourage the academic progress and eligibility of their students. The office will provide a list of students with deficiencies to each advisor/head coach and the principal within one week of the grades being turned in.

C. Attendance:

1. Students with an unexcused absence shall be ineligible to participate in the next contest during the current season.
2. A student must be present the entire last (4) class periods of the day to be eligible to practice or participate in a contest that day. (Friday attendance in school carries over to Saturday's contest.)
3. In either 1 or 2 above, a student may obtain permission to participate from the principal or, in his absence, the district administrator for a good and compelling reason, such as, but not limited to, involvement in a school-sponsored activity, a medical appointment (Doctors Note), or family emergency.
4. In any case, it is advisable for the student to seek prior approval for such absence.

5. A student who must leave school early or miss practice for any reason **must notify the advisor/coach prior** to that practice session.

D. Conduct violations:

1. Students will be ineligible for participation in practice or competition if they do not serve their detention by the assigned time. They will remain ineligible until the detention is served.
2. Students will lose their eligibility to participate in practice and competition if they are expelled.
3. Students under court supervision or punitive action for violation of law will lose their eligibility to participate in practice and competition. Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.)
4. Students may lose their eligibility to participate in practice, competition or be removed from the team/activity for conduct unbecoming of a student/athlete or conduct that the advisor/coach deems inappropriate. This may include, but is not limited to, poor sportsmanship, use of abusive language during activities, acts in violation of school policies, or the student's willful disobedience and/or disregard of rules established by the advisor/coach of a particular activity.
5. Use of any electronic media device and/or any website or other similar forum to make disparaging comments toward teammates, advisors, coaches, parents, or members of any other organization will not be tolerated. This is inclusive of, but not limited, to Facebook, Twitter, internet blogs, email, and texting. Students choosing to interact through this type of media will be held accountable for their actions and choices regarding these activities.
6. Hazing in any form will not be tolerated. *The National Federation of State High School Associations defines hazing as "any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a group, **regardless of their willingness to participate.**"* Individuals committing acts of hazing will be subjected to disciplinary action with the subsequent discipline based on the severity of the circumstances surrounding the hazing incident(s).
7. Everyone is entitled to a reasonable amount of privacy therefore no recording devices, including cell phones, may be used in the locker room unless directed to by the coaching staff. Unauthorized use of a recording device to capture, record, or transfer a representation of a nude or partially nude person is a violation of Wisconsin Act 118 which carries criminal penalties.
8. In-school suspension would result in no practice or competition for that day.
9. Out-of-school suspension would be under results from violations

E. Substance violations:

1. The use, possession, or distribution of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, inhalants (including e-cigarettes), and/or controlled substances, unless prescribed by a licensed medical practitioner, **is forbidden** during an athlete's competitive years while enrolled in the School District of Thorp. Athletes violating the substance rules, with or without parental permission, will be subject to loss of eligibility.

Successive offenses will be considered per the athlete's career and not on a per year basis.

2. Athletes will be considered in violation of the athletic code if they attend gatherings where alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances are being distributed and/or consumed illegally.

IV. Results from violations:

A. First Offense:

- **Athletic:**
 - Will be suspended from all interscholastic competition for twenty percent (20%) of the scheduled contests. The athlete will be expected to participate in all practice sessions during his/her suspension. This suspension will be carried over from one school year and/or sports season to another.
- **Activity:**
 - Three weeks from all activities, and potential additional discipline by the advisor of an organization. This suspension will be carried over from one school year and/or activity to another.

Honesty clause:

- An athlete who is completely honest during the initial questioning of the incident will have their consequence reduced by one half. This will only apply for the first offense.

B. Second Offense:

- **Athletic:**
 - The athlete will be suspended from that sport for forty percent (40%) of the scheduled contests. The athlete will lose all awards or letters earned in that sport during that season in which the offense occurred and this suspension will be carried over from one school year and/or activity to another.
- **Activity:**
 - Three months from all activities, and potential additional discipline by the advisor of an organization. This suspension will be carried over from one school year and/or activity to another.

C. Third Offense:

- The student will be suspended from all activities/athletic participation for one (1) calendar year from the date of the violation.

D. Fourth Offense:

- The student will not be allowed to participate in activities/athletics for the rest of his/her school career.
- Any athlete serving a sanction while out for a sport must finish the sport in good standing according to the opinion of the coach or the sanction will be served in its entirety in the next season of participation.

- Student / Athletes are not eligible to represent their class / team / organization while under suspension. Examples include; Prom Court, Homecoming Court, Etc...
- Code Violations carryover from MS to HS

Exception:

- Those athletes with an alcohol or drug problem who have voluntarily enrolled in a professional rehabilitation program prior to any written or found violations will receive due consideration by the District Administrator.

V. Enforcement procedure and due process policy:

- A. Alleged violations of the activities code will be based on the following:
 1. Alleged violations reported to the school by law enforcement officials with corroborating evidence.
 2. Alleged violations reported by teaching or coaching staff members, parents, or members of the community. Suspected violations require the completion of the attached form in Appendix II. Sources of information may request and be granted confidentiality.
 3. Self-Admission:
- B. Reports of violations must occur within **30 days** of the violation. Unless referred by the judicial system, law enforcement, and/or social services.
- C. Upon receiving a report of a violation, the principal and/or athletic director shall conduct an investigation as soon as is feasibly possible, which shall include an interview with the accused to determine whether or not the student has violated the activities code.
- D. If, after the investigation, it has been determined by the principal and/or athletic director that the student has violated the activity code, the student and his/her parents will be notified of the violation verbally and in writing.
- E. If either the parent/guardian or student do not agree with the decision of the principal and/or athletic director, they may appeal to the District Administrator within five (5) school days of the formal written decision. The appeal must be in writing and must state the reason(s) for the appeal. A committee consisting of the District Administrator, one current teacher, and one non-current coach of the athlete shall review the case and give written notice of the decision of the committee within five (5) school days. **The student will be ineligible during the appeal process.**
- F. A meeting may be arranged by the parent/guardian or student with the committee and the athletic director. Only the parent/guardian and the student may be present unless both parties agree to the presence of additional people at the meeting. The committee will make its decision after hearing arguments from both sides.
- G. If the decision of the committee is appealed by either the student or his/her parent/guardian, it must be presented to the school board within five (5) school days of the written decision of the committee. The appeal must be in writing and must state the reason(s) for the appeal.

VI. Parent sportsmanship pledge:

- A. I agree to practice and promote good sportsmanship. I also agree that if I fail to abide by the following guidelines and goals, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but not be limited to, verbal warning, written warning, removal and/or suspension from game(s), or legal prosecution or action with record of incident kept on file.
1. I will learn and understand the rules of the game and the policies of the conference and WIAA.
 2. I will be responsible for my actions and the actions of my guests as a positive role model for my student(s) and will encourage respect by showing courtesy, and positive support for participants, coaches/advisors, officials, and all spectators.
 3. I will not engage in any disrespectful actions directed at any official, coach/advisors, participants, or spectator to include booing, taunting, using profane or rude language or gestures.
 4. I will teach my child to participate within the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to violence or hostility. In addition, I will demand that he/she treat other participants, coaches/advisors, and officials with respect.
 5. I will not ridicule or yell at my child or other members of the team for making a mistake or losing a competition.
 6. I will put what is best for the participants and team above my personal desires for my child to gain acclaim or win.
 7. I will respect the officials and their authority during events and will not question, discuss, or confront coaches/advisors or officials at the competition site. I will take time to speak with coaches/advisors at an agreed upon time and place.
 8. I will not use electronic media such as Facebook, Twitter, or text messaging to ridicule coaches/advisors or teammates.
 9. I will be supportive of the team/coach/advisor's **policy, procedure, and/or participation decisions**. I understand that there are many factors that contribute to participation time, and coaches/advisors have the best understanding of those factors for each participant.

In addition, I will accept and abide by the enforcement of all penalties for school activities code violations imposed on my son/daughter for his/her failure to abide by the code

APPENDIX I

ACTIVITIES ACADEMIC DEFICIENCY

Name of student _____ Date _____

Coach/Advisor _____

Subject deficient in _____ Instructor _____

Subject deficient in _____ Instructor _____

Subject deficient in _____ Instructor _____

QUARTER DEFICIENCY: 15 consecutive scheduled school days and nights.

Date deficiency began _____ Earliest terminal date _____

MID-TERM DEFICIENCY:

As soon as this form is signed by the teacher(s) of the above listed class that the student earned a non passing grade in and it is then turned in by the student to the activities director. The activities director will then contact the coach/advisor of that student's eligibility.

Signature showing the student is now passing the class listed above:

The above-named student has shown the progress necessary to be reclassified as ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY in the School District of Thorp's Activities Program.

Instructor's signature _____ Date: _____

The above-named student has shown the progress necessary to be reclassified as ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY in the School District of Thorp's Activities Program.

Instructor's signature _____ Date: _____

The above-named student has shown the progress necessary to be reclassified as ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY in the School District of Thorp's Activities Program.

Instructor's signature _____ Date: _____

THE STUDENT MUST RETURN THIS FORM TO THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THORP STUDENT ACTIVITIES CODE VIOLATION REPORT

Please provide a specific explanation of the concern/comment/reason for contact:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Administrator/Building Principal
Signature for Disposition Report

Appendix III
2024-2025 High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin

Appendix IV

**The School District of Thorp
Waiver for Dual Sport Student-Athlete**

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Sports Participating In: _____

Description of how practice time and contests will be split, including how conflicting schedules will be resolved
(completed by coaches):

Student-Athlete Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Coach #1 Signature: _____

Coach #2 Signature: _____

Athletic Director signature: _____

HS Principal Signature: _____

Superintendent Signature: _____

NONDISCRIMINATION: The School District of Thorp is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, creed, color, national origin, handicap, age, sex – including sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, arrest or conviction record. This policy prevails in all matters concerning staff, students, the public, educational programs and services, and individuals with whom the board does business.