

# **Yantis Independent School District**



## **2016-2017 Athletic Handbook**

Yantis I.S.D. Athletic Program represents an important aspect of total student learning, where students are afforded an opportunity for physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, and social growth, and where the District's mission of education excellence is enhanced.

## ATHLETE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Being a Y.I.S.D. Athlete is a student choice and thereby a privilege, one that along with being an honor, carries with it responsibilities. The following are expected of a Yantis I.S.D. Athlete:

1. Yantis athletes will be intense competitors on the field, court, and the track, but are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times.
2. Yantis athletes are to display positive leadership at all times in our school and around the community.
3. Yantis athletes are to strive for the highest in moral and spiritual values.
4. When traveling to compete against other schools, Yantis athletes will represent themselves and their teams in a manner that reflects Yantis I.S.D. values and ideals.

As a Yantis athlete, our young men and young ladies have an image to reflect: one of leadership, character, responsibility, competitive spirit, and integrity. Students are not required to take part in extracurricular activities. Therefore, it is imperative that all students taking part in athletics understand the following responsibilities and rules and that the coaches of that athletic program and the athletic director have the right to remove those privileges.

## YANTIS I.S.D. ATHLETICS

### **Junior High Programs**

#### **Goals of the Junior High Program**

- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Development of skills to progress as an athlete.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Enjoyment of the game and of the team building experience.

Each of these goals has equal weight in the Junior High Program. Winning is an outcome of the accomplishment of these goals. The desire to win is fostered; however it is not the driving force that governs the program. Winning is a nice thing that happens at this level.

### **Junior Varsity Programs**

#### **Goals of the Junior Varsity Program**

- Development of skills and refinement to prepare for Varsity competition.
- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Enjoyment of the game and of the team building experience.

At this level, a primary focus is development of players to compete at the varsity level – but not at the expense of other goals. The desire to win is more strongly encouraged, but again not at the expense of the other goals.

## **Varsity Program**

### **Goals of the Varsity Program:**

- Refinement of skills to create a competitive interscholastic team.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Develop citizenship and leadership (school & community).
- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Enjoyment of the game and team-building experience.

Winning at all costs is not a concept that is promoted at the varsity level; however, there is a much higher expectation to win. Coaches will make team decisions that will affect individuals on the team differently, in an effort to win, but not at the expense of other goals.

Student athletes must abide by all policy set forth in the Yantis I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct and Yantis I.S.D. Student Handbook.

Students must be currently enrolled at Yantis I.S.D. to receive Yantis I.S.D. awards.

### **I. Training Rules**

All training rules must be followed from the start of the season to the end of the season. Any incident report containing the following violations will have the following consequences.

#### **Use/Possession of Tobacco Products**

- First offense – Athlete is placed on probationary status for the remainder of the sport, eligible to practice and eligible to participate in athletic contest.
- Second offense – Athlete is ineligible for letter award, eligible to practice, and ineligible to participate in athletic contests for one calendar week.
- Third offense – Athlete is still eligible for practice, but ineligible to participate in athletic contests for two calendar weeks.

#### **Use/Possession of Alcohol/Drugs/Illegal Substances**

- First offense – Reference FNG Local
- Second offense – FNG Local

### **II. Serious Criminal Offenses**

- First offense – Reference FNG Local
- Second offense – FNG Local

When a training rule or serious criminal offense has occurred, school administration, (superintendent, athletic director, or campus principal) should be notified, as well as the head coach by a parent or guardian. Violations should be reported no later than 48 hours after the incident.

### **III. Quitting**

- If an athlete decides to quit a team, they will be given 3 days to make their final decision. The head coach, athletic director, and campus principal must coordinate the removal.
- The athlete will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the season is concluded in the sport they quit.
- No letter award would be earned for that sport.
- Ineligible for a letter jacket that year.
- To return to athletics, the athlete must get permission from AD and head coaches involved. If they are allowed to return to athletics, it will be at the discretion of the head coach and athletic director as to the criteria for returning.

#### **IV. During the Contest**

- The athlete must refrain from the use of profanity/trash talk or resorting to illegal tactics.
- Temper fits, flagrant violations of rules, etc. will not be tolerated.
- Total respect of officials is a must.

Any behavior contrary to the above-mentioned or any act, which is not conducive to good sportsmanship, will result in temporary and perhaps permanent removal from the contest. The head coach will appropriately discipline any athlete who is ejected from a contest.

#### **V. Practice Regulations**

- Practices are essential for proper conditioning, improvement of techniques, and teamwork skills. Athletes are required to attend scheduled practices.
- Notify the coach as soon as possible prior to a practice or contest an athlete must miss.
- Obey all practice/training rules set up by the coach.
- Profanity and poor effort will not be tolerated.
- Violation of practice regulations may result in loss of letter award for that sport.

#### **VI. Travel**

- Be on time for all trips.
- Dress appropriately as directed by the coach.
- Abide by all rules while traveling on bus/van/etc.
- Be mannerly in restaurants and public places.
- All students making the trip on the bus will return on the bus unless in an emergency-type situation or there is good reason for returning with the parents. If a student plans to return with the parents, he/she must have their parent or guardian sign them out.

#### **VII. School Equipment**

- Athletes are responsible for the proper care of all equipment they are issued for their respective sports.
- School equipment must not be abused nor worn for personal use.
- Replacement of any equipment damaged by improper care, lost, or stolen is the financial responsibility of the athlete. (Due to custom athletic apparel costs, replacement value can be twice as much as its original cost.) Athletes who fail to return equipment will not participate on another athletic team.

#### **VIII. Public Display of Affection**

- There will be no public display of affection allowed at home or away games.
- First violation will result in punishment of running and loss of playing time.
- Repeat violations may result in removal from the team and possibly all athletics

#### **IX. No Pass/No Play**

- Athletes that failed 3 six weeks grading periods of the prior year will not be allowed to participate in athletics.
- Students may be allowed to return to athletics after passing 2 consecutive 6 weeks grading periods.

### **Athletes' Expectation of Coaches**

Each athlete can expect his or her coach to:

- Run a well-organized and productive program.
- Develop a positive environment that encourages athletic achievement.
- Hold each athlete and team accountable for action on and off the playing field through proper supervision.
- Lead by example through actions and words on and off the field.
- Correct all possible mistakes.
- Support other athletes, coaches, and programs with sincere enthusiasm and loyalty to the school.
- Coaches shall conduct themselves at all times in a professional manner with visiting coaches, parents, athletes and referees.

### **Coaches Expectations of Parents**

- Communicate any concern following the proper chain of command.
- Notification of any scheduled conflicts in advance.
- Notification of any injury or illness promptly.

### **Parent/Guardian-Coach Meeting Procedure**

1. Our coaches may be contacted at the school during their conference periods. If contact must be made during school hours, please call the principal's office.
2. Request a meeting to discuss concern.
3. If the coach is unavailable, contact the athletic director.
4. Do not confront a coach when children are present.  
(i.e. ...right before or right after a game or practice.) Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions.
5. If not satisfied with the outcome of the parent/coach meeting, contact the Athletic Director. If not satisfied with that meeting, contact the Campus Principal. If no resolve has been made after these three meetings, you may contact the Superintendent's Office.

### **Letter Jackets**

UIL athletic participants will letter for meeting the following criteria:

- (1) Participation in a UIL sport for 2 complete seasons with at least 1 year being varsity.
- (2) Post district competition in at least one UIL sport.
- (3) Must compete in the sport the entire year
- (4) Post district competition must be earned. It cannot be an automatic qualification due to inadequate number of teams in a sport.

Alternates do not count in any of these categories. No student will receive more than one jacket from Yantis.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**~ Can an athlete practice or participate in a contest the same day that he/she served ISS or DAEP?**

Answer: A student may practice while in ISS, but not participate in a contest the same day he/she served ISS. The student would be allowed to participate in a contest the day that their ISS has ended, if the contest occurs after the school day has ended. A student in DAEP is not allowed to practice or participate with an athletic team.

**~ May an athlete compete in dual sports during a season?**

Answer: Yes. An athlete may participate in two or more sports during a season.

**~ Do academically ineligible students continue to practice?**

Answer: Yes. According to UIL, even though an athlete is ineligible for athletic contests, he/she will continue to regularly attend practices.

**~ Do injured athletes attend practices or travel with teams to contests?**

Answer: Injured athletes may attend practices and travel with the team for rehabilitation, cognitive skills, and team unity as long as it does not aggravate the student's injury.

**~ When a student fails a course at the end of a grading period, is that course the only subject a student must pass to regain eligibility in three weeks?**

Answer: No. The student must be passing all courses at the end of the three-week evaluation period in order to regain eligibility.