

MWHA BOARD POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING THE USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUGS IN SPORTS for player & coaches?

The MWHA Policy is consistent with the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) policy and is as follows:

The use of mood-altering chemicals, i.e. alcohol, tobacco, drugs and marijuana, is expressly prohibited. During the playing season, regardless of quantity, a player shall not: (1) use a beverage containing alcohol; (2) use tobacco (including chewing tobacco) or, (3) use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or giveaway any other controlled substance defined by law as a drug. This rule applies to the entire season. It is not a violation for a player to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the player's own use by his/her physician.

PENALTIES

1. First violation

After confirmation of the first violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks of a season, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

2. Second violation

After confirmation of the second violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive games. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

3. Third violation

After confirmation of the third or subsequent violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive games.

NOTE: If the player becomes a participant in a chemical dependency or treatment program of his own volition after the third or subsequent violation, the player may be certified for reinstatement in MWHA activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks. The director or counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification.

INTERPRETATION

"Game" in this rule means regular league or playoff contest. Practice games or scrimmages cannot be counted in determining length of suspension. Associations or individual teams may adopt a more prohibitive rule and/or more severe penalties for violation of this rule.

DENIAL DISQUALIFICATION

Players should be disqualified from all MWHA activity for nine (9) additional weeks beyond the players original period of ineligibility when the player denies violation of the rule, is allowed to participate, and is then subsequently found guilty of the violation.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In accordance with our policies regarding alcohol and tobacco use by MWHA players, we strongly recommend that coaches, managers, and parents refrain from consuming or having tobacco or alcohol in the presence of MWHA players. In all cases, no alcohol or tobacco should be consumed or be present at games, practices, team meetings, or in transportation vehicles to and from games, tournaments, or practices.