

DRUG TESTING POLICY

A drug testing policy was adopted by SRHS on May 23, 1996. Under this policy, a drug is defined as any substance considered illegal by Florida statute or which is controlled by the Food and Drug Administration. The purpose of this policy is threefold:

1. To provide for the health and safety of all student athletes.
2. To undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for student athletes to refuse to use illegal drugs.
3. To encourage student athletes who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs.

Procedure for Student Athletes:

Consent: Each student wishing to participate in SRHS's athletic program, and the student's parent or guardian, must consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the school's drug testing program. No student will be allowed to participate in any interscholastic athletic program without such consent.

Student Selection: At the option of the school, all student athletes may be drug tested at the beginning of any athletic season. In addition, random testing will be conducted at the discretion of the principal during the athletic season. Selection for random testing will be by a lottery drawn from all student athletes participating in interscholastic athletic programs at the time of the drawing.

The principal shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and random nature of the selection process including, but not necessarily limited to: assuring that the names of all participating student athletes are in the pool, assuring that the person drawing names has no way of knowingly choosing or failing to choose particular students for the testing, assuring that the identity of students drawn for testing is not known to those involved in the selection process, and assuring direct observation of the selection process by at least one adult.

Sample Collection

Samples will be collected at a mutually convenient time on the same day the student is selected for testing, or if the student is absent on that day, on the day of the student's return to school. If a student is unable to produce a sample at any particular time, the student will be allowed to return later that same day to provide the sample. All students providing samples will be given the option of doing so alone in an individual stall with the door closed.

Scope of tests

The testing lab or designated personnel will be instructed to test for one or more illegal drugs. The principal shall decide which illegal drugs will be screened for, but in no event shall that determination be made after selection of students for testing. Student athlete's samples will not be screened for the presence of any substance other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug intoxication.

Prescription Medication

Students who are taking prescription medication may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor's verification in a sealed envelope at the time a sample is collected. That envelope will be forwarded unopened to the testing lab with instructions for the lab to consider the student's use of such medication to assure the accuracy of the result. Such information provided by the student will not be disclosed to any school official. Students who refuse to provide verification and test positive will be subject to the actions specified for "positive tests."

Limited Access to Results

The testing lab, if used, will be authorized to report results to the principal or to such person as the principal may designate.

Procedure in the Event of a Positive Result

Whenever a student athlete's test results indicate the presence of illegal drugs ("positive test"), the following will occur:

1. The student will be asked to provide another sample as soon as possible. If the student refuses to provide another sample, or unduly delays in providing such sample, the result of the first sample will be accepted as accurate.
2. The second sample will be submitted to the lab for testing.
3. If the second sample tests negative, the student will be notified and no further action will be taken. If the second sample tests positive, a parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the principal, the student, and the parent or legal guardian.

First Positive Result

For the first positive result, the student athlete will be given the option of: participation in drug assistance program and submission to weekly drug testing

for six weeks; or suspension from participation in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season.

Second Positive Result

For the second positive result in any two consecutive calendar years, the student athlete will be suspended from participating in athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season for which the student is eligible.

Third Positive Result

For the third positive result in any two consecutive calendar years, the student athlete will be suspended from participating in athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next two athletic seasons for which the student is eligible.

Non-Punitive Nature of Policy

No student athlete shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities, without legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the school shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's parent or legal guardian will be notified at least 72 hours before response is made by the school.

At the end of each academic year, the principal will form a committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy.