



Consent of Student-Athlete and Parents to Participate in Random Testing for Use of Anabolic Steroids

For:	Each student in grades 9-12 who participates in the sports of baseball, flag football, tackle football, softball, girls weightlifting or boys weightlifting, as well as the student's parent.
Action:	Must be completed, signed by you and your parents, and returned to your athletic director before you can participate in any one of these sports during the 2007-08 school year.
Due date:	Prior to participation in in any of the six sports.
Required by:	Florida Law 2007-193.
Purpose:	Consent of student and parents to participate in random testing program.

TO: STUDENT-ATHLETE AND PARENTS

The State of Florida has directed the FHSAA to test student-athletes in grades 9-12 for the use of anabolic steroids. Student-athletes who are participating in the sports of boys baseball, girls flag football, boys tackle football, girls softball, and girls & boys weightlifting will be randomly selected to undergo testing. Florida Law 2007-193 states that a student-athlete who participates in any one of these six target sports and the student-athlete's parents must consent for the student-athlete to provide a specimen if the student-athlete is selected for testing. Failure to give this consent in writing will cause the student-athlete to be ineligible to participate in any one of the three sports.

You must consent to you/your child's testing by completing, signing and returning the attached form to your school before you can participate in practice or competition in any one of the six target sports. If you do not consent to you/your child's testing by signing the attached form, you/your child will not be eligible to participate in practice or competition in any one of the six target sports during the 2007-08 school year.

Please read the information preceding the attached form carefully. It includes a brief description of the testing program; the penalties for a positive finding, the procedure for challenging a positive finding, and the procedure for appealing the penalties imposed as a result of a positive finding.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE TESTING PROGRAM

The FHSAA has contracted with the National Center for Drug Free Sport™ to administer the testing program. Drug Free Sport, in turn, contracts with UCLA's Olympic laboratory, which is certified by the World Anti-Doping Agency, to analyze the specimens that are collected.

Each high school that sponsors a program in one of the six target sports must provide the FHSAA Office with a roster containing the names of the student-athletes in grades 9-12 who will be participating in the sport. The FHSAA Office will forward these rosters to Drug Free Sport. Drug Free Sport will randomly select for testing approximately 1 percent of the schools that participate in one of the six sports. Drug Free Sport then will randomly select 1 percent of the student-athletes on the rosters submitted by those schools.

A student-athlete who is selected will not know about the test until the certified specimen collector shows up at the student-athlete's school. The student-athlete will be called to the office and directed to a private room to provide a specimen (urine sample). If the student-athlete fails to provide a specimen for any reason, even an absence from school on that day, the student-athlete will be suspended from practice and competition until the specimen is provided.

The specimen collector will send the specimen to the lab where it will be analyzed for anabolic steroids, as well as substances that mask the use of anabolic steroids. The student-athlete will not be tested for the use of recreational drugs. Drug Free Sport will notify the school administration, which in turn will notify the student-athlete and parents, of the test results within 10 business days.

PENALTIES FOR TESTING POSITIVE

A student-athlete who tests positive will be immediately suspended from practice and competition in all sports for a period of 90 school days, and must attend and complete a drug education program conducted by the student-athlete's school, the school district or a third-party organization contracted to provide such a program. The student-athlete will be required to undergo an exit test no sooner than the 60th school day of the suspension. If the student-athlete tests negative on the exit test, the student-athlete will be reinstated. If the student-athlete tests positive on the exit test, the student-athlete will remain suspended until he/she tests negative on a subsequent exit test.

PROCEDURE FOR CHALLENGING A POSITIVE FINDING

A student-athlete who tests positive may ask the school administration to challenge the finding. The school administration, which must honor the student-athlete's request, will file the challenge with the FHSAA Office. A sample of the student-athlete's original specimen, which has been retained by the lab, will undergo a second analysis. The student-athlete's family or school will have to pay the cost of this second analysis. If the challenge is successful (the second analysis is negative), the student-athlete will be immediately reinstated and the FHSAA Office will refund the cost of the analysis. If the challenge is not successful (the second analysis also is positive), the student-athlete will remain suspended.

PROCEDURE FOR APPEALING THE PENALTIES FOR A POSITIVE FINDING

A student-athlete who chooses not to challenge a positive finding but wishes to seek a waiver of or reduction in the penalties for the positive finding may ask the school administration to appeal the penalties. The school administration, which again must honor the student-athlete's request, will file the appeal with the FHSAA Office. The Commissioner may uphold the suspension, reduce the length of the suspension by one-half or reinstate the student-athlete. If the student-athlete is not satisfied with the decision of the Commissioner, the student-athlete may then appeal that decision to the Board of Directors, which has the same three options. Regardless of the outcome of the appeal, however, the student-athlete cannot be reinstated until he/she tests negative on an exit test.

PAYING FOR THE TESTS

The FHSAA Office will pay the costs of the initial test and one exit test if needed. If subsequent exit tests are needed, the student-athlete's family or school must pay for those tests. The FHSAA Office also will reimburse the cost of a challenge if the challenge is successful.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF TEST RESULTS

Test results are confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone other than the FHSAA Office, Drug Free Sport, the testing facility contracted by Drug Free Sport, the school administration, the student-athlete and parents, and the administration of any school to which the student-athlete transfers if the test results are positive. These individuals must ensure the confidentiality of the test results is maintained. Test results will not become a part of the student-athlete's permanent school record and cannot be used in any criminal proceeding. Any hearing before the Board of Directors during which penalties for a positive test are being appealed will be closed to the public.



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Must be completed and signed by a student-athlete in grades 9-12 participating in the the sports of baseball, flag football, tackle football, softball, and girls & boys weightlifting, as well as the student-athlete's parents, and submitted to the school before the student can participate in practice or competition in any of these sports.

Name of your school _____

You must sign this form before you/your child can participate in interscholastic practice or competition in the sports of baseball, flag football, tackle football, softball, and girls & boys weightlifting during the 2007-08 school year. Florida Law 2007-193 requires that you sign this form. See your principal or athletic director with any questions you have.

Anabolic Steroid Testing Consent

By signing this form, I affirm that I am aware of the State of Florida/FHSAA Anabolic Steroid Testing Program, which provides:

A student-athlete who is found to have used an anabolic agent will be suspended from all interscholastic practice and competition for a period of 90 school days from the date the school administration is made aware of the positive finding. The student-athlete also will be required to attend and complete a drug education program conducted by the school, the school district or a third-party organization contracted by the school or school district to provide the program. The student-athlete must undergo an exit test for reinstatement of eligibility no sooner than the 60th school day of the suspension. If the exit test is negative, the student-athlete will be reinstated. If the exit test is positive, the student-athlete will remain suspended until such time as he/she tests negative on a subsequent exit test.

I agree that I was provided an opportunity to review the procedures for the testing program that accompanied this form and understand the test procedures, penalties for a positive finding and my/my child's rights to challenge a positive finding or appeal the penalties imposed as a result of a positive finding.

I agree to allow the Center for Drug Free Sport to test me/my child in relation to participation in the sports of baseball, flag football, tackle football, softball, and girls & boys weightlifting. I agree that I/my child will provide a urine sample to a certified specimen collector upon request. I understand that if I/my child fails to do so, I/my child will be immediately suspended from interscholastic practice and competition until such time as a specimen is provided.

I understand that this consent form and the results of steroid tests are confidential and will be shared only with the FHSAA Office, Drug Free Sport, the testing facility contracted by Drug Free sport, the school administration and me/my child, as well as the administration of any other school I/my child may transfer to during any period of suspension resulting from a positive test. I further understand that the test results will not be made a part of my/my child's permanent school record and cannot be used as evidence in any criminal proceeding.

I affirm that I understand that if I/my child sign this statement falsely or erroneously, I am violate FHSAA Bylaws that prohibit providing false information to gain eligibility, and I will further jeopardize my/my child's eligibility.

Date _____ Signature of student _____

Name of student _____

Date _____ Signature of parent _____

Name of parent _____

Date _____ Signature of parent _____

Name of parent _____

Home address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Sport(s): [Baseball] [Flag Football] [Tackle Football] [Softball] [Girls Weightlifting] [Boys Weightlifting]

What to do with this form: Complete, sign and return to your principal or athletic director before the first day you intend to participate in practice in any of the sports you check above. This form is to be kept on file in the school for **four years**.