

MUKILTEO SCHOOL DISTRICT
Guidelines for Team and Group “Bonding” Events

The primary purpose of all team bonding activities needs to be either teambuilding, or to honor and recognize the group members for a new year. Groups must obtain prior permission from the building Athletic Director and/or ASB/Activities Director prior to any teambuilding and/or group bonding activities. All group members must have the opportunity (without consequence) to opt out of the activities.

Guidelines for acceptable honoring:

- Activities need to have a meaningful, positive purpose that align with the team, athletic department, school and district goals.
- Activities must create a positive team feeling, bonding and atmosphere.
- Activities cannot be disruptive to the school or educational process.
- Activities should be carried out only with consent of member and with adult/coach supervision.,
- Activities cannot involve hazing
 - Hazing is defined as any method of initiation into a student organization or group that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger or physical harm, or serious mental or emotional harm to any student or other person. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:
 - Acts that tend to injure, degrade or disgrace individuals
 - Acts that single out individuals in a negative, mocking or humiliating manner
 - Forcing students to do distasteful things
 - Having students represent themselves in a vulgar or sexual way
 - Applying peer pressure to force students to do something that they are not comfortable doing

CONSEQUENCES for violations of guidelines:

All team, school and district rules apply, including Mukilteo School District Policy #3216 regarding Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying. If a group conducts bonding activities in violation of these guidelines, one or more of the following consequences may be imposed on the students involved:

Team and/or school discipline may occur if these guidelines are not followed; including but not limited to - removal from the team for a period of team or remainder of the season; suspension from school and/or the team; loss of leadership/captain position; other consequences deemed appropriate by school administration.

A member of the coaching staff must be present and involved in all team building/bonding events. Any inappropriate team/group event where a coach is not present and involved my subject members of the team/group to school discipline regardless of the time or location of the event. Any team/group event that is kept secret from coaching or school staff may be regarded as an inappropriate event and participants may be subject to discipline.

Our goal is to provide a competitive and enjoyable extracurricular program for students so that they may develop good sportsmanship, leadership, self-motivation, cooperation, competitiveness and self-discipline and ultimate and have a safe and rewarding experience.