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Anti-Hazing Policy for:

MATCH HIGH SCHOOL
MATCH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Match Charter Public School ("Match") is required by law to communicate the Massachusetts Anti-Hazing Law to every student at Match High School ("MHS") and Match Middle School ("MMS"). Students at MHS and MMS who organize, direct, participate, or engage in hazing, or fail to report hazing are subject to disciplinary consequences set forth herein. A copy of the Massachusetts Anti-Hazing Law is attached as Attachment A.

Hazing is any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Hazing can occur on or off campus and is unlawful even if no physical injury results.

Examples of hazing include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

- *Consent is not a defense!* A person charged with violating this policy cannot claim that the victim of hazing consented to the treatment.

- *Requirements to Report Hazing:* **If** you know that another person was the victim of hazing and you were present when hazing occurred, then you are required to report the crime to law enforcement as soon as reasonably practicable. Reports may also be made to a Match administrator. Match will not tolerate retaliation against any student or staff member who makes a good faith report of hazing.

- *Requirements for Clubs, Teams or Other Organizations:* At the beginning of the school year, every student group, team or organization must distribute a copy of this policy and the Massachusetts Anti-Hazing Law to each of its members, pledges or applicants for membership. The designated officer of each such group, team or organization must deliver to the Principal or Executive Director (or designee) an attested acknowledgement of compliance by September 30 of every year.

- *Penalties*: Participants and organizers who are found guilty of hazing under Massachusetts law can be punished by a fine of up to $3,000 or by imprisonment for up to a year, or both. A failure to report the crime of hazing can be punished by a fine of up to $1,000. In addition, any person who has violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion. A student group, team or organization that fails to comply with its obligations under this policy may be dissolved, banned from Match's grounds and prohibited from using Match facilities.

- *Questions:* If you have questions about this policy or if you have been the victim of hazing, please contact your Principal or Executive Director.

Reviewed: August 2026

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Attachment A

Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Anti-Hazing Law

Chapter 269: Section 17. Hazing; organizing or participating; hazing defined

"Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing, as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

The term "hazing" as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Chapter 269: Section 18. Failure to report hazing

Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Chapter 269: Section 19. Copy of Secs. 17 to 19; issuance to students and student groups, teams and organizations; report

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of such institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen; provided, however, that an institution's compliance with this section's requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations.

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full-time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the board of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and

sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. The board of higher education and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report."