

~ CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES ~

We believe that interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics, sportsmanship, and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. We also believe that the highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness – be worthy of trust in all you do.

Integrity – live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty – live and act honorable; don't allow your children to lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Reliability – fulfill commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time; when you tell your children you will attend an event, be sure to do so.

RESPECT

Respect – treat people with respect all the time and require the same of your children.

Class – live and cheer with class; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; compliment extraordinary performance; and show respect for all competitors.

Disrespectful Conduct – don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.

Respect Officials – treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

Respect Coaches – treat coaches with respect at all times; recognize that they have team goals beyond those of your child. Don't shout instructions to players from the stands; let the coaches coach.

RESPONSIBILITY

Importance of Education – stress that student-athletes are students first. Be honest with your children about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well-being of your children above desires and pressures to win.

Role-modeling – Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a role model for your children.

Self-Control – exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to demean others.

Integrity of the game

– Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble on your children's games.

Privilege to Compete – assure that you and your child understand that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege, not a right, and that they are expected to represent their team, school and family with honor, on and off the field.

FAIRNESS

Be Fair – treat all competitors fairly; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CARING

Encouragement – encourage your children regardless of their play; offer positive reinforcement. Demonstrate sincere interest in your child's play.

Concern for Others – demonstrate concern for others; never encourage the injury of any player, officials or fellow spectator.

Empathy – consider the needs and desires of your child's teammates in addition to your own; help promote the team concept by encouraging all team members, understanding that the coach is responsible for determining playing time.

Reprinted with the permission of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.