

## St. Michael Catholic School Athletic Code

Participation on a St. Michael School athletic team is a privilege which should elicit great pride in both the student athlete and his/her family. It is also an acceptance of responsibility which requires an extra commitment from those who wear our school colors and represent their teammates, coaches, school and community. Standards of behavior are necessarily high and a willingness to meet these standards is a condition for being a member of one of our teams.

Our coaches are responsible for providing leadership, encouragement and direction to assist the student-athlete with meeting his/her personal commitment to their team. They are also responsible for providing the student-athlete the opportunity to compete in an athletic environment that fosters sportsmanship and fair play. Coaches will strive to enhance the academic pursuit of the student-athlete through athletic participation. The following guidelines serve as benchmarks for the conduct of coaches.

### **Coaches will:**

1. Build a personal and team philosophy based upon the values expressed in the St. Michael School Philosophy statement.
2. Strive to enlarge their technical knowledge and develop wisdom and competency in all areas of the profession.
3. Enhance and protect the physical and mental well being of their student athletes.
4. Teach student-athletes to respect self, teammates, opponents and officials.
5. Strive to instill in players a desire to know and live by the spirit of the rules of the school, team, and sports.
6. Help create an atmosphere of friendly competition wherein sportsmanship and honor transcend victory or defeat.
7. Cooperate with administrators, faculty and other coaches in

maintaining and improving the educational quality of our school.

8. Encourage the highest standards of academic achievement among our student-athletes.

### **Conditions for Team Membership**

Student-athletes are expected to commit themselves to team membership, attendance at school, and at practices/contests for the duration of the season. When this commitment is not fulfilled, the athlete's membership and position on the team shall be reviewed by the coach with the athlete and a recommendation of action will be made by the coach to the Director of Athletics for review.

Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and contests unless excused by the coach. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach, in advance, of any circumstances which would prohibit attendance at practice(s) or contest(s) other than absence from school. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action ranging from a verbal warning to dismissal from the team dependent upon the nature and/or frequency of the offense.

A student who is absent from school will not be eligible for participation in any athletic event or practice session on the day he or she is absent. The Director of Athletics may permit participation when, in his/her judgment, the absence is unavoidable and supporting documentation signed by a parent or guardian is provided. Students are therefore advised to make requests for absence(s) in advance.

Students who are members of an athletic team are expected to be in school on time on a daily basis. Students will be ineligible for practice or contest participation that day if they do not report to the office. Students who are tardy to school must present a legitimate written excuse signed by a parent or guardian in order to be eligible for participation (ex. doctor's appointment).

The coach will establish team rules for practices/game attendance and participation. All team members will be given a written copy of the team rules and the coach will review the rules with the team members. All team members are expected to comply with and abide by the rules established for their team.

A student's absence(s) from practice(s) and or contest(s) due to mandatory participation in family activities will not jeopardize the student's team membership status.

As a member of an athletic team, students should be mindful that they represent their team, school, family and community. Team members are expected to and have an obligation to conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school and the community. Students are expected to refrain from exhibiting any behavior(s), which violates the principles of good citizenship. In other words, NEVER do anything which might bring embarrassment or an unfavorable view to yourself, your teammates, coaches, family, school, or community.

## **I. Eligibility**

**To meet St. Michael School requirements, all student athletes must:**

- ∞ **Be a current St. Michael School student.**
- ∞ **Be making satisfactory academic progress in all areas of the curriculum.**
- ∞ **Have a physical examination on file. (Required every two years)**

## **II. Sportsmanship and Citizenship**

St. Michael student athletes are expected to demonstrate exemplary conduct on the field/court, in the classroom, and at school-related functions. Both

players and parents will promote and practice ideals of good sportsmanship and show respect to the opposing team, their administration and fans, and the game officials at all times. Serious disciplinary infractions in any area of school life could result in suspension from an athletic team by the coach and Athletic Director.

### **III. Athletic Equipment**

Equipment issued to athletes belongs to St. Michael School. Loss of issued equipment is the student's financial obligation. Until this obligation is fulfilled, the student will not be allowed further competition or receive grades.