

Commodore Athletics

Student, Parent, Coaches Handbook

Pursuing Victory with Honor

St. Joseph School



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**"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do.
Attitude determines how well you do it." ~ Lou Holtz**

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MISSION

It is the mission of the St. Joseph School Athletic Program to create a caring, nurturing, and competitive environments tailored for the success of student-athletes through discipline, pride and tradition.

BELIEFS

We believe that:

- Athletics are an important part of school and are competitive, fun, and add to the development of the student athlete.
- Athletes are students first and we are committed to their academic programs.
- Athletes who are committed to the program will have the opportunity to participate as game conditions permit.
- Coaches will teach and model the concept of sportsmanship and athletes are expected to adhere to those concepts.
- Coaches teach skills, are patient with athletes and treat them with respect and dignity.
- Coaches get the most out their athletic abilities by adapting to different learning styles.

ATHLETIC CODES and EXPECTATIONS

St. Joseph School considers student participation in athletics as a voluntary, non-required activity. Students selected to represent St. Joseph School in such extracurricular activities are offered a privilege which may be revoked if the student violates established athletic rules. Athletic rules may be different from established school rules. The status and high visibility of student-athletes make them influential as school leaders and as public representatives of their school and community.

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

Rooted in the mission of St. Joseph School, the philosophy of the athletic program clearly reflects Gospel values which enable the student-athletes to maintain academic, physical and spiritual integrity in all endeavors. Providing an athletic foundation that is child-centered, our program further develops the qualities of respect, self-worth, and mercy. Built on quality instruction, the program is committed to enhancing unique individual talents and to promoting dedication to excellence. Student-athletes are encouraged to achieve personal athletic growth and to incorporate this growth into their team achievements. A spirit of team play, responsibility, discipline, and leadership are key components of our athletic program. The program is rooted in a sense of pride: pride in oneself, pride in the team, and pride in St. Joseph School. All coaches, parents, student-athletes and spectators share a responsibility for promoting Christian leadership, good sportsmanship, and positive competition while demonstrating grace in victory and dignity in defeat.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

St. Joseph School provides the opportunity for teams to participate in the Ft. Wayne Diocesan CYO League. Teams represent St. Joseph School in athletic competitions.

Boys' Team Sports - Basketball,
Girls' Team Sports - Volleyball, Basketball, Softball

In Association with Belmont Middle School or Adams Central Middle School
Football, Cross Country, Swimming, Wrestling, Track and Field, Soccer

Non-Discrimination Policy

In accordance with the Ft. Wayne –South Bend Diocese, the St. Joseph School Athletic Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin or sexual orientation in its athletic programs and related activities, in the employment of personnel or in the selection of athletes.

Policy on Sexual Harassment

The Ft. Wayne –South Bend Diocese is committed to providing an educational environment which is free of discriminatory intimidation and sexual harassment. Abuse of the dignity of anyone through sexist slurs or through other derogatory or objectionable conduct is offensive behavior which will not be tolerated. Individuals who believe that their rights in this area have been violated should report their concerns to the school principal or to the Athletic Director.

Criminal Checks

All Coaches & coaching staff must have a criminal check. The Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend mandates that anyone in contact with students must go through the criminal check process before they are permitted to coach. This process is completed through the school office. Keys will not be issued to coaches unless they have their paperwork on file in the school office.

Participation in the Athletic Program

St. Joseph School requires that the following conditions be met before a student may participate in athletics:

- Pass a physical examination.
- Maintain satisfactory grades, conduct and attendance.
- Properly complete "medical release form" and "transportation" forms.
- Complete Student Code of Ethics Agreement.
- Complete Parent Code of Ethics Agreement.

In addition to meeting St. Joseph Schools requirements, there are other requirements necessary in order to remain on an athletic team.

- Students need to be present a minimum ½ day to qualify for athletic participation
- Any day in which a student attends school he/she is expected to be at team practice for the entire season whether he/she dresses or not, unless excused by his coach
- Students who are not able to participate in physical education classes during any one day cannot practice with their team after school that day, but are expected to attend practice and observe.
- A student may be dismissed from the team for one or all of the following reasons:
 1. Failure to maintain eligibility
 2. Temporary suspension due to a minor infraction of rules and training regulations of coaches or school
 3. Permanent suspension due to major infractions of rules and regulations set up by the coaches and school. Example: smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages. Any student who has been permanently suspended from a team or quits a team of his or her own accord before the season of sport for that team is completed may not go out for another sport until the team from which he or she quit or was suspended has completely finished its season.

Notification of ineligibility and probationary status is a formality. Students and parents are expected to know a student's eligibility status based on their grade reports regardless of their notification.

Alcohol and Other Drugs: The use or possession of alcohol or any other drug, that is not a prescription to an athlete, is strictly prohibited.

Smoking: The use or possession of tobacco, in any form, is prohibited.

Stealing: Any substantiated report of stealing, made by school personnel or law enforcement personnel, will result in Athletic Department action.

School Suspensions: Any school disciplinary action resulting in school suspension will warrant Athletic Department action.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Reported gross unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after an athletic contest will result in Athletic Department action.

Hazing: Initiation or harassment of students is prohibited by State law and school regulations. Incidents of this nature will cause appropriate athletic and school disciplinary action.

Absence from School: Success in school is directly related to school and class attendance. Class participation will make up a percentage of each student-athlete's grade for which a student must be in attendance to receive the credit. Therefore, you cannot participate in a practice or athletic contest if absent from school during the day, unless excused in advance by the Administration. Students need to be present a minimum ½ day to qualify for athletic participation.

Practice Sessions: All student-athletes are required to attend practice. Absences from practice may result in a team penalty. Each coach will inform the squad about the penalties for missing practice.

Personal Grooming: As representatives of St. Joseph School, the impression made on opposing teams and schools is important. The major emphasis on personal grooming will be "neat in appearance." The head coach, conferring with assistant coaches, will determine the appropriate dress for student-athletes.

Electronic Devices: Any inappropriate or illegal use of any electronic device will cause athletic and school disciplinary action and possible referral to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

Academic Ineligibility: An athlete is considered academic ineligible if they receive one or more F's at mid-term or end of the grading period. Two or more D's with an unsatisfactory effort grade will also deem an athlete ineligible.

Situations involving student-athletes not covered under the current policy will be dealt with by the Administration on an individual basis.

Athletic Insurance and Injuries

Athletics can play an important role in an athlete's development; however, there is a risk of injury, even serious injury, while participating in athletics. In the event an injury occurs, the athlete must contact the coach immediately for reasonable care to be given. The use of proper techniques and equipment is also essential. It is required that all athletes have medical insurance while participating in school sports.

Accident/Incident Report

Accidents, injuries and incidents occurring during an athletic contest or practice must be reported to the school office/Administration as soon as possible. Use the Accident/Incident report provided.

Transportation Policy

To ensure your child's transportation safety, each family needs to fill out a transportation form filled out and on file with the school office.

Practice Policy

On scheduled ½ days there will be no practices until after 3:30pm. If school is cancelled due to weather related issues there will be no practice sessions unless given permission by the Administration.

Team Pictures

Team picture days will be scheduled for each sport season. Once players have received the order forms, it becomes their responsibility to be prepared for picture day. All teams should dress in their uniforms for pictures.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACHES

Before the Season:

- To be sufficiently proficient in the latest skills, techniques, rules, and strategies of the sport to be able to teach them successfully to team members.
- Check the practice area and equipment to be certain it is ready to use and let the AD know if any new equipment is needed.
- All purchases will be completed through the Athletic Director/Administration. All items purchased must have prior approval. Items purchased without prior approval, will be the financial responsibility of the coach.
- Make sure all athletes have a physical on file before they are allowed to practice.
- A list of players, roster and fees will be given to the school office before the first game.
- Submit an equipment inventory to the Athletic Director/School office and be responsible for the distribution, use of, and collection of all equipment and uniforms belonging to the school.
- Conduct a Parent-Coach Meeting. These meetings are designed to give parents the opportunity to meet the coach, learn about the team, and to be informed of team policies, schedules, requirements, etc. These meetings are a great opportunity for coaches to provide information such as team rules and expectations, schedule information, behavioral guidelines, and contact information. Also, it is a great opportunity to build support and excitement for your team.
- Head coaches will be given appropriate keys needed for their sport. It is important that coaches never distribute these keys to anyone else, especially students, under any circumstances or for any period of time. Maintaining security and safety of our facilities and equipment is our responsibility, and legal liability can be placed directly back to a coach that allows anyone to use their keys. Keys will be turned in at the end of the each season.

During the Season:

- Represent mission of St. Joseph School
- Play an active role in supporting and upholding athletic philosophy as well as regulations outlined in this athletic handbook.
- Model appropriate adult behavior and leadership. Be positive role model for students and community. Be respectful to officials, coaches, student-athletes, parents and spectators.
- Give quality instruction with an element of fun and assist in the development and improvement of all players.
- Teach athletes respect for teammates, opponents, coaches, and the game.
- Ensure safety and supervision of student-athletes at all times.

- Encourage and inspire athletes to be the best person they can be by providing positive feedback and skill-building techniques.
- Teach, critique, and encourage. Use correction techniques that are not demeaning.
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community by displaying positive public actions.
- Maintain effective communications with the administration, teachers, parents/guardians, students, booster clubs, media and community organizations. When possible get to know parents so that you can foster their help and support of your program.
- Never leave before all players have left the practice or contest premises. Monitor the athletes at all times. Pay particular attention to the locker rooms where an adult should ALWAYS be present. Never send athletes to a location where they will not be monitored, and never allow horseplay, fighting, or hazing.
- Be aware of student-athlete's medical issues and review medical emergency forms carefully.
- Attempt to provide each student-athlete with the opportunity to participate in all games.
- Playing time is at the discretion of the coach.
- Welcome teams at the beginning of all athletic competitions and outline rules and procedures.
- A coach is not permitted to drive a student-athlete in his/her own vehicle without the parents written consent.
- Report to the Athletic Director/Administration any incidents (whether at practice or a game) regarding fighting, injuries, poor officiating, accidents, and poor sportsmanship. (Accident/incident report form)
- Keep the Athletic Director informed of the development of the team and aware of any problems which may arise.
- Inform the local media and school office of all game results in a timely manner.

At the End of the Season:

- It is the responsibility of the coaches to collect and inventory all equipment after the final game and to complete the post-season inventory report. Your coaching duties do not end until all equipment is turned in and stored appropriately and keys are turned in.
- To work with the Athletic Director in making recommendations for equipment needs for the next year
- End of the season celebrations are approved by the administration and directed by the coach in consultation with the Athletic Director.

Sports Awards Athletic Banquet

An Athletic Banquet is held for all athletes at the end of the school year. This is usually a carry-in dinner held at the K of C. Each 8th grade athlete will be presented with an athletic certificate. All coaches and families will be invited to this banquet.

We want to personally thank each of you for volunteering your time to coach our players this year. We understand the huge undertaking this is and hope everyone, players, coaches and parents, have a positive and fun experience. We recommend each coach have a player/parent meeting to go over rules, expectations, practice schedule, game schedule and procedures you will have in place for your team. We appreciate your commitment to the school, and more importantly, to our students. We have experienced few rewards that can match the joy of knowing that we have helped one of our players/students develop into a better, more responsible person. We sincerely hope that you experience that same joy in coaching.

Best Regards, Good Luck, and Go Commodores!

Barney Schulz, Karla Hormann & The Athletic Board

LETTER TO PARENTS

The role of the parent in the education of a student is important. The support shown in the home is often manifested in the ability of the student to accept the opportunities and challenges presented at school in the classroom and through co-curricular activities. There is a value system – established in the home, nurtured in the school – which young people are developing. Their involvement in the classroom and other activities contributes to that development. Integrity, fairness and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics. These are the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results.

A good sport, whether a student or a parent, is a true leader in the community. As a parent of a student at our school, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience and that the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of the game.
- Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work, knowing that others will always turn in better or lesser performances.
- Participating in positive cheers that encourage our students; and discouraging any cheers that would redirect that focus- including those that taunt and intimidate the opponents, their fans, the officials and the coaches.
- Learning, understanding and respecting the rules of the game, the officials who administer them and their decisions.
- Respecting the task our coaches face as teachers and supporting them as they strive to educate our son or daughter.
- Respecting our opponents as fellow students, acknowledging them for striving to do their best.
- Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances
- Be a fan... not a fanatic! Pursue Victory with Honor! Honor the Game!

As fans of St. Joseph School athletics, we value your participation in our sports program. With that involvement come expectations with respect to following the principles of the Victory with Honor Program that the athletic department of St. Joseph School strongly adheres to.

Our goal is to have the best possible athletic and sportsmanship reputation with our opponents and officials. We want anyone who witnesses an athletic contest involving any of our teams to leave saying that not only was St. Joseph School strongly competitive but the players, coaches, and parents were among the best behaved and respectful of any team we have played against. Win or Lose- our athletic reputation is very important to the overall image of our high school, and often fan actions in the stands or on the fields makes or breaks that reputation.

The last thing we want to have to do is ask a fan to not attend our athletic contests. We are confident that by abiding by these principles the experience of both you and your fellow boosters of St. Joseph Athletics will be positive and rewarding no matter what sport or what level you are watching.

We have included some key provisions of our Parent Code of Ethics for your review that are applicable to all fans of St. Joseph School Athletics contests. These key components of this code will be posted at the entrances to the various sports venues on campus. Join us in making our athletic events an enjoyable experience for everyone.

These and other expectations give us a roadmap to follow toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics. You can have a major influence on your student's attitude about academics and athletics. The leadership role you take in sportsmanship will help influence your child, and our community, for years to come. We look forward to serving you in the year ahead and appreciate your continued support.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS

- Represent mission of St. Joseph School
- Be respectful to coaches, officials, student-athletes, opposing teams and spectators.
- Live up to the high standard of sportsmanship established by the St. Joseph School for athletic programs. Avoid public displays of anger and/or displeasure.
- Be a good role model for your sons and daughters by positively supporting teams in every manner possible.
- Leave coaching of the team, playing time, position, and placement to the head coach and staff.
- Respect opposing fans, officials, coaches, and participants.
- Approach before, during, and after games with positive comments. Withhold negative comments regarding the game, athlete(s) or coaching until such time that the concern can be addressed in an atmosphere conducive to effective problem solving.
- Give consistent encouragement.
- Parents are responsible for transportation to and from games that occur off-site on weekends and holidays.
- Inappropriate parental behavior will be addressed by Athletic Director and may warrant removal and loss of privilege to attend future games.
- Parents are required to volunteer for various team duties.
- Children who are spectators at games must remain with a specific adult who is responsible for their supervision at all times.
- Be on time for drop-off and pick-up of student-athlete. Continual lateness by the parent will result in child's suspension from the team.
- A transportation form must be filled out at the beginning of each sport season.
- Rainy Day Plan: make student-athletes aware of alternative transportation plan in the event of cancellation of practice or game due to inclement weather.
- A CYO sports fee for all athletes will be assessed at the beginning of each sports season. Payment must be received in order for an athlete to receive the team uniform.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE

- Represent mission of St. Joseph School
- Be respectful to coaches, teammates, opponents, officials and spectators.
- Show cooperation, work as a team and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
- Follow directions as communicated by the coach promptly and effectively.
- Maintain academic eligibility.
- Practice good health and fitness habits.
- Attend and positively participate in all scheduled practices
- Communicate with Athletic Director and coaches regarding individual circumstances such as injuries, missed practices, and academic issues.
- Uphold the signed athletic contract.
- Be aware that playing time is at the discretion of the coach.
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community by displaying positive public actions.
- Accept authority and supervision in a positive manner at all times.
- Communicate effectively with the coach and teammates and be a positive role model for fellow athletes.
- Work cooperatively with the coach and team members as a problem solver.
- Demonstrate loyalty to the school, coach and the team.
- Take care of uniforms and turn them in at the assigned time and in good condition.
- Treat fellow students, opponents, their fans, and all adults with dignity and respect.
- Refrain from conversations that foster dissention.
- Respect judgment and integrity of contest officials; abide by rules of the contest and display appropriate behavior at all times.
- Live up to the high standard of sportsmanship established by St. Joseph School for athletic programs.
- Avoid public displays of anger and/or displeasure.

- Unacceptable academic performance or behavior will necessitate a student- athlete's sitting out until improvement has been shown. Lack of improvement may necessitate removal from the team.
- When a student-athlete receives a detention, the detention date may not be changed to accommodate the student-athlete's sports schedule.
- Student-athletes must attend practices if they expect to play in games.
- A transportation form must be filled out at the beginning of each sport season.
- Rainy Day Plan - student-athletes must know ahead of time how they will go home in the event a practice or game is canceled due to inclement weather.
- Communicate to the Athletic Director and coaches about any medications being brought to School, games or practices.

Forms

- All athletes must present a completed physical form prior to the beginning of practice. Athletes cannot participate in any activities without the completion and submission of this form.
- All athletes must present a signed and completed "Code of Conduct" form prior to the beginning of practice.
- All athletes must complete a transportation form must be filled out at the beginning of each sport season.
- All athletes must complete CYO release form which is required by CYO and must be returned to them with a complete roster and your CYO fees prior to the first game.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR & ATHLETIC BOARD

The Athletic Director and the Athletic Board is responsible for the total management of the fall, winter, and spring sports programs. They are responsible to the Administration of St. Joseph School they direct coaches, student-athletes, parents and spectators to uphold the philosophy of our Athletic Department. Quarterly meetings will be held to discuss the organization, development, and progress of the athletic program.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, ATHLETIC BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent mission of St. Joseph School
- Be respectful to coaches, officials, student-athletes, parents, and spectators.
- Play an active role in supporting and upholding athletic philosophy as well as Regulations outlined in athletic handbook.
- Maintain on-going communication with faculty and administration, coaches, parents, and student-athletes.
- Meet with Administration and Athletic Board on a seasonal basis.
- Advise Administration of coaches' concerns and league matters.
- Keep the Administration informed of all athletic activities/concerns.
- Maintain schedules, calendars and website to ensure smooth communication.
- Maintain and inventory all athletic equipment and uniforms.
- Purchase equipment/uniforms as needed for each sport.
- Provide appropriate equipment to maintain court and fields.
- Attend league Athletic Directors' meetings.
- Meet with coaches to review athletic policies and changes in rules.
- Schedule and conduct seasonal meetings with parents.
- Conference with parents on an as-needed basis.
- Fill coaching vacancies for various school sports.
- Be responsible for communicating information and distributing resources to coaching staff.
- Enforce school, league, and Athletic Department policies and rules.
- Monitor academic eligibility for student-athletes.
- Schedule athletic events for coming year.
- Schedule officials for each home game through assignor.

- Coordinate practice schedules.
- Schedule gym/field use with the appropriate coach.
- Secure student-athlete release from class when needed.
- Oversee payment of officials.
- Direct and oversee end of year Athletic Banquet.
- Organize clinics.
- Oversee/coordinate games.
- Oversee the maintenance, and inventory of equipment required for the athletic department (with direct assistance from the Administration)
- Coordinate, in conjunction with the Maintenance Department, the upkeep and set-up of all facilities.
- Develop facility usage schedules for all athletic facilities.
- Provide general supervision of athletic events and contests, and provide a safe playing environment in conjunction with head coaches.
- Oversee athletic awards, banquets, and ceremonies, and maintain historical records of individual players and teams.
- Be responsible for all game contracts.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ADMINISTRATION

- Support participants, coaches, parents/guardians, and fans that teach and display good sportsmanship.
- Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, fans, and other administrators.
- Develop and enforce consequences for coaches, students, and adults who do not abide by established standards.
- Attend events whenever possible.
- Be a positive role model for coaches, students, parents/guardians, and fans.
- Strive to maintain positive communication between the school, coaches, athletes, parents/guardians and community
- When there are indications of problems through parent/guardian concerns or complaints, requests for meetings, etc., monitor coach's communication with students and parents/guardians.

THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- Physical Examination Forms – required before participation is permitted
- Medical Release/Emergency Forms – collected and filed
- CYO release form – required by the CYO
- Transportation Forms
- Team Rosters, schedules and signed consent forms
- All accident/incident forms

Pursuing Victory With Honor Code of Conduct for Coaches

We believe that school athletic competition should be fun, but that it must also be a significant part of a sound educational program. We believe that those who coach student-athletes are, first and foremost, teachers who have a duty to assure that their sports programs promote important life skills and the development of good character.

We believe that the essential elements of character-building are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core ethical values: trustworthiness, respect, fairness, caring and good citizenship (the "Six Pillars of Character"). We believe, further, that the highest potential of sports is achieved when teacher-coaches consciously Teach, Enforce, Advocate and Model (T.E.A.M.) these values and are committed to the ideal of pursuing victory with honor. Finally, we believe that sincere and good-faith efforts to honor the words and spirit of the Code will improve the quality of our programs and the well being of our student-athletes. .

I understand that in my position as a coach, I must act in accord with the following code:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness - Be worthy of trust in all I do and teach student-athletes the importance of integrity, honesty, reliability and loyalty.

Integrity - Model high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; teach, advocate and model the importance of honor and good character by doing the right thing even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty - Don't lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Reliability - Fulfill commitments; I will do what I say I will do; be on time.

Loyalty - Be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

Primacy of Educational Goals - Be faithful to the educational and character-development missions of the school and assure that these objectives are not compromised to achieve sports performance goals; always place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well being of athletes above desires and pressures to win.

Counseling - Be candid with student-athletes and their parents about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Counsel them about the requirement of many colleges preventing recruitment of student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.

RESPECT

Respect - Treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of student-athletes.

Class - Be a good sport, teach and model class, be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; encourage student-athletes to give fallen opponents a hand, compliment extraordinary performance, show respect in pre- and post-game rituals.

Taunting - Don't engage in or allow 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 parents - Treat parents of student-athletes with respect; be clear about your expectations, goals and policies and maintain open lines of communication.

Profanity - Don't engage in or permit profanity or obscene gestures during practices, sporting events, on team buses, or any other situation where behavior could reflect badly on the school or the sports program.

Positive Coaching - Use positive coaching methods to make the experience enjoyable, increase self-esteem and foster a love and appreciation for the sport. Refrain from physical or psychological intimidation, verbal abuse and conduct that is demeaning to student-athletes or others.

Effort and Teamwork - Encourage student-athletes to pursue victory with honor, to think and play as a team, to do their best and continually improve through personal effort and discipline. Discourage selfishness and put less emphasis on the final outcome of the contest, than upon effort, improvement, teamwork and winning with character.

Professional Relationships - Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with student-athletes and respect proper teacher-student boundaries. Sexual or romantic contact with students is strictly forbidden as is verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature directed to or in view of student-athletes.

RESPONSIBILITY

Life Skills - Always strive to enhance the physical, mental, social and moral development of student-athletes and teach them positive life skills that will help them become well-rounded, successful and socially responsible.

Advocate Education - Advocate the importance of education beyond basic athletic eligibility standards and work with faculty and parents to help student-athletes set and achieve the highest academic goals possible for them.

Advocate Honor - Prominently discuss the importance of character, ethics and sportsmanship in materials about the athletic program and vigorously advocate the concept of pursuing victory with honor in all communication.

Good Character - Foster the development of good character by teaching, enforcing, advocating and modeling (T.E.A.M.) high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and the six pillars of character.

Role-Modeling - Be a worthy role-model, always mindful of the high visibility and great influence you have as a teacher-coach and consistently conduct myself in private and coaching situations in a manner that exemplifies all I want my student-athletes to be.

Personal Conduct - Refrain from profanity, disrespectful conduct and the use of alcohol or tobacco in front of student-athletes or other situations where my conduct could undermine my positive impact as a role model.

Competence - Strive to improve coaching competence and acquire increasing proficiency in coaching principles and current strategies, character-building techniques and first-aid and safety.

Knowledge of Rules - Maintain a thorough knowledge of current game and competition rules and assure that my student-athletes know and understand the rules.

Positive Environment - Strive to provide challenging, safe, enjoyable and successful experiences for athletes by maintaining a sports environment that is physically and emotionally safe.

Safety and Health - Be informed about basic first aid principles and the physical capacities and limitations of the age-group coached.

Unhealthy Substances - Educate student-athletes about the dangers and prohibit the use of unhealthy and illegal substances including alcohol, tobacco and recreational or performance-enhancing drugs.

Eating Disorders - Counsel students about the dangers of and be vigilant for signs of eating disorders or unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.

Physician's Advice - Seek and follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured student-athlete is ready to play.

Privilege to Compete - Assure that student-athletes understand that participation in interscholastic sports programs is a privilege, not a right and that they are expected to represent their school, team, and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Require student-athletes to consistently exhibit good character and conduct themselves as positive role models.

Self-Control - Control my ego and emotions; avoid displays of anger and frustration; don't retaliate.

Integrity of the Game - Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

Enforcing Rule - Enforce this Code of Conduct consistently in all sports-related activities and venues even when the consequences are high.

Protect Athletes - Put the well-being of student-athletes above other considerations and take appropriate steps to protect them from inappropriate conduct.

Access - Help make your sport accessible to all diverse communities.

Improper Commercialism - Be sensitive to and avoid unwholesome commercialism including inappropriate exploitation of my name or the name of the school and undue financial dependence on corporate entities. Make sure any affiliation or association with a corporate entity is approved by school and district officials.

FAIRNESS

Be Fair - Be fair in competitive situations, selecting a team, disciplinary issues and all other matters; and be open-minded and willing to listen and learn.

CARING

Safe Competition - Put safety and health considerations above the desire to win; never permit student-athletes to intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to themselves or others.

Caring Environment - Consistently demonstrate concern for student-athletes as individuals and encourage them to look out for one another and act as a team.

CITIZENSHIP

Honor the Spirit of the Rules - Observe and require student-athletes to observe the spirit and the letter of all rules including the rules of the game and those relating to eligibility, recruitment, transfers, practices and all other provisions regulating interscholastic competition.

Improper Gamesmanship - Promote sportsmanship over gamesmanship; don't cheat. Resist temptations to gain competitive advantage through strategies or techniques (such as devious rule violations, alteration of equipment or the field of play or tactics designed primarily to induce injury or fear of injury) that violate the rules, disrespect the highest traditions of the sport or change the nature of competition by practices that negate or diminish the impact of the core athletic skills that define the sport.

"Pursuing Victory With Honor" and "Six Pillars of Character" are service marks of CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.

I have read and understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct. I will act in accord with this code.

Coach Signature _____ **Date** _____

St. Joseph School - Pursuing Victory With Honor Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians

Athletic competition of interscholastic age children should be fun and should also be a significant educational program. Everyone involved in sports programs has a duty to assure that their programs impart important life skills and promote the development of good character. Essential elements of character building are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core ethical values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship (the "Six Pillars of Character"). The highest potential of sports is achieved when all involved consciously Teach, Enforce, Advocate and Model (T.E.A.M.) these values and are committed to the ideal of pursuing victory with honor. Parents/guardians of student-athletes can and should play an important role and their good-faith efforts to honor the words and spirit of this Code can dramatically improve the quality of a child's sports experience.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness - Be worthy of trust all you do.

Integrity - Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and encourage players to pursue victory with honor. Do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty - Live honorably. Don't lie, cheat or steal or engage in any other dishonest conduct.

Reliability - Fulfill commitments. Do what you say you will do.

Loyalty - Be loyal to the school and team; Put the interests of the team above your child's personal glory.

RESPECT

Respect - Treat all people with respect at all times and require the same of your student-athletes.

Class - Teach your child to live and play with class and be a good sport. He/she should be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity, compliment extraordinary performance and show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.

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

Respect Officials - Treat game officials with respect. Don't complain about or argue about calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

RESPONSIBILITY

Importance of Education - Support the concept of "being a student first." Commit your child to earning a diploma and getting the best possible education. Be honest with your child about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Reinforce the notion that many universities will not recruit student-athletes who do not have a serious commitment to their education. Be the lead contact in the recruiting process.

Role-Modeling - Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right. Parents/guardians too represent the school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.

Self-Control - Exercise self-control. Don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration.

Healthy Lifestyle - Promote to your child the avoidance of all illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco, drugs and some over-the-counter nutritional supplements, as well as of unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.

Integrity of the Game - Protect the integrity of the game. Don't gamble or associate with gamblers..

FAIRNESS

Fairness and Openness - Live up to high standards of fair play. Be open-minded, always willing to listen and learn.

CARING

Caring Environment - Consistently demonstrate concern for student-athletes as individuals and encourage them to look out for one another and think and act as a team.

CITIZENSHIP

Spirit of the Rules - Honor the spirit and the letter of rules. Teach your children to avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

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I have read and understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct and acknowledge that I may be disciplined if I violate any of its provisions.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

St. Joseph School Code of Conduct for Student - Athletes

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship (the "Six Pillars of Character"). This Code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports. I understand that, in order to participate in high school athletics, I must act in accord with the following:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness — be worthy of trust in all I do.

Integrity — live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty — live and compete honorably; don't lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Reliability — fulfill commitments; do what I say I will do; be on time to practices and games.

Loyalty — be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

RESPECT

Respect — treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other student-athletes.

Class — live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.

Disrespectful Conduct — don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or ***racial*** 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.

RESPONSIBILITY

Importance of Education — be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level and remember that many universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.

Role-Modeling — Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model. **Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.**

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

Healthy Lifestyle — safeguard your health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.

Integrity of the Game — protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

FAIRNESS

Be Fair — live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CARING

Concern for Others — demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to myself or others.

Teammates — help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

CITIZENSHIP

Play by the Rules — maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.

Spirit of rules — honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

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I have read and understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct. I understand that I'm expected to perform according to this code and I understand that there may be sanctions or penalties if I do not.

Student-Athlete Signature

Date

St. Joseph School
Athlete Transportation Form

_____ (name of student) has my permission to participate
in _____ (name of sport/activity) at St Joseph School.

Everyone transporting our school's students is required to have his/her own personal liability insurance for the care of our students. As this student's parent/guardian, I release St. Joseph Catholic School and any associated person or agency from any claims of ordinary negligence in consideration for the opportunity to participate in this program.

TRAVEL TO AND FROM PRACTICES/GAMES

It is the sole responsibility of parents and student participants to provide transportation to and from practices/games. St. Joseph Catholic School is not responsible for monitoring or supervising student travel to and from activities.

For insurance reasons coaches are discouraged from transporting any students.

My child can be transported to and from practices/games by the following individuals:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

St. Joseph School
Athlete Incident/Accident Report

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade _____

Parents Name _____ Address _____

Telephone # _____

Parents Notified :

Yes: _____ No: _____ If not, then _____

THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT

___ Accident/Injury ___ Physical Altercation ___ Verbal Confrontation ___ Other

Date: _____ Time: _____ Place: _____

Description of accident/incident _____

ACTION TAKEN

___ First Aid — administered by _____

___ Sent to Physician/Hospital — name _____

___ Sent Home ___ No action taken ___ Other _____

Student was being supervised by _____

Witnesses _____

Reported by _____ Date _____

FOLLOW UP

Action Taken _____

Signature of Principal/Athletic Director _____

Date _____