

## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Through the vehicle of sports, youth become better Christians and become friends with other children throughout the Diocese. Activities should be examples of the meaning of Christian sportsmanship.

### COACHES

Acceptable standards of coaching behavior include:

- Set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior
- Respect the judgment of officials, abide by the rules of the event. Never argue with officials. Technical fouls and ejections are never acceptable
- Treat opposing coaches, participants, and fans with respect
- Coach in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values. Yelling should be avoided
- Be drug, alcohol and tobacco-free at all youth practices, events and games
- Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship
- Encourage players through positive reinforcement
- Coaches bear the same responsibility as teachers

### PLAYERS

Acceptable standards of player behavior include:

- Treat opponents with respect. Shake hands prior to and after contests
- Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest. Technical fouls and ejections are never acceptable
- Always play in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values

### PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

Acceptable standards of spectator behavior include:

- Remember that all players are children and are playing for their enjoyment, not yours
- Remain seated in the spectator area during the games
- Respect decisions made by the contest officials
- Be drug, tobacco and alcohol-free at all youth practices, events and games
- Be a positive role model by positively supporting teams and by not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches or officials. Do not coach from the stands
- Make no derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches, spectators of the opposing team, officials or league administrators
- If you see fans of your team behaving in a negative manner, please try to appeal to the conscience at an appropriate time

### ENFORCEMENT

Concerns regarding violations of this code shall be first brought to the attention of the local school athletic director. Coaches, participants and spectators may be placed on probation or suspended from activities for their actions.

**I (We) have read the Code of Conduct. I (We) agree to follow these guidelines in my (our) participation in all athletic activities**

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Signature of Player

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Date

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Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

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Date