

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Athletics competition between interscholastic age children should be fun and should be a significant part of a the child's education. 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 Samueli Academy's core values: Trust, Respect, and Responsibility.

The highest potential of sports is achieved when all involved consciously uphold 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 in their child's athletic experience, 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.

TRUST

- Trustworthiness — Be worthy of trust in all you do.
- Integrity — Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and encourage players to pursue victory with honor. Do what is right even when it is unpopular or personally costly.
- Honesty — Live honorably. Do not lie, cheat, 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 interest 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 — Do not 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 for Officials — Treat game officials with respect. Do not 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 for college and university coaches in the recruiting process.
- Role-Modeling — Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right. Parents/guardians too should represent the school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the court/field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.
- Self-Control — Exercise self-control. Do not 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 and 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. Do not gamble or associate with gamblers.
- Sexual Conduct – Sexual or romantic contact of any sort between students and adults involved with interscholastic athletics is improper and strictly forbidden. Report suspected misconduct to the Executive Director and the police.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is a vital component to Samueli Academy's overall academic approach, so it is important to maintain effective and appropriate communication avenues between all involved in athletics.

Expectations from Coaches to Parents

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations of the coach for each student and the team.
- Locations and times of practices and games.
- Team requirements in and out of season (e.g. fundraising, lifting, conditioning, contests, etc.)
- Procedure to follow if a child is injured.
- Discipline that results from a lack of participation or cooperation of any child.
- That availability of the coach to speak with parents if they have a concern.

Expectations from Parents to Coaches

- Concerns are to be expressed at the appropriate time, in an office setting.
- Notification of any schedule conflict which may involve an absence from practices or a contest, well in advance.
- Support of the program, and of all those involved in it.

PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS A CONCERN

1. Samueli Academy Athletic Department supports the student-athlete in first, meeting with the Head Coach of their sport to address the concern.
2. If the issue is not resolved after the student athlete has met with the coach, the student-athlete's parents should then contact the Head Coach directly at school via email. All head coaches have a Samueli Academy email address. Leave your name, number a short message and the best time to call. The coach will contact you within 48 hours.
 - a. Do not attempt to personally contact a coach in person, 1 hour before a practice, 3 hours before a game, during a game or practice, and at least 1 hour after a practice and 2 hours after a game. A coach's time during the aforementioned times is to prepare for and supervise each event.
 - b. **The 24-Hour Rule.** Samueli Academy respectfully requests that during the 24 hours surrounding a practice/game that student-athletes and parents wait to contact or discuss any issue of concern with a coach. The period of time after a game is an emotional time for student athletes, parents, and coaches, and is therefore less conducive to solving problems rationally.

3. If the issue is not resolved after the student-athlete and the parent have contacted the Head Coach, the parent should contact the Athletic Director. The AD will investigate the concern and provide feedback as soon as practicable, usually within 48 hours. A meeting between the student-athlete, parent, Head Coach, and AD may be conducted to discuss the situation, and to reach an appropriate plan of action.
4. If the issue is not resolved after the student-athlete and the parent have contacted the Head Coach and the Athletic Director, the parent should contact the administrator in charge of athletics. The administrator will investigate the concern and will provide feedback and a plan of action to all concerned parties as soon as practicable, usually within 48 hours.

RETRIBUTION

Retribution is prohibited by Athletic Department policy. Student and parents must be confident that the voicing of an opinion or concern, using the proper forum and method, is not only free from penalty or retribution, but also is strongly encouraged. The Athletic Director and all coaches are committed to insuring that after a student or parent raises an issue or concern, there shall be no 'retribution' in any form within the Athletic Department at Samueli Academy.