

## Recommended Letter to Parents from “Pursuing Victory With Honor”

Dear Parents,

The role of the parent in the education of a student is vital. The support shown in the home is often manifested in the ability of the student to accept the opportunities presented at school and in life.

There is a value system - established in the home, nurtured in the school - that young people are developing. Their involvement in classroom and other activities contributes to that development. Trustworthiness, citizenship, caring, fairness and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics. These are the principles of good sportsmanship and character. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results.

As a parent of a student-athletes at our school, your goals should include:

- Realize that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a game;
- Encourage our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work;
- Participate in positive cheers that encourage our student-athletes; and discouraging any cheers that would redirect that focus - including those that taunt and intimidate opponents, their fans and officials;
- Learn, understand, and respect the rules of the game, the officials who administer them and their decisions;
- Respect the task of our coaches face as teachers; and support them as they strive to educate our youth;
- Respect our opponents as student-athletes, and acknowledge them for striving to do their best; and
- Develop a sense of dignity and civility under all circumstances.

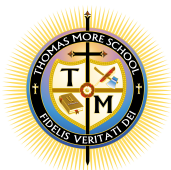
You can have a major influence on your student's attitude about academics and athletics. The leadership role you take will help influence your child, and our community, for years to come. Accordingly, the CCS and CIF and it's member schools have the policy that as a condition of membership, schools should adapt the Pursuing Victory With Honor Program.

We look forward to serving you in the year ahead, and appreciate your continued support.

Please sign and return the Code of Conduct Contract for Parents (located on the back side).

Sincerely, John DeTar, Athletic Director, and Person Responsible for “Pursuing Victory With Honor”

7



# 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 part of a sound 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.

Our athletic program subscribes to the Pursuing Victory With Honor Arizona Sports Summit Accord. “Pursuing Victory With Honor” and the “Six Pillars of Character” are service marks of the *CHARACTER COUNTS!*

## TRUSTWORTHINESS

*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’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.

*Honesty* — Live honorably. Don’t 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 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 nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.

*Respect for Officials* — Treat game officials with respect. Don’t complain 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 corner 7 r 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. 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.

*Sexual Conduct* — Sexual or romantic contact of any sort between students and adults involved with interscholastic athletics is improper and strictly forbidden. Report misconduct to the proper authorities.

## **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.

***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.***

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*Parent/Guardian Signature*

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*Date*