

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC MISSION STATEMENT

Statement of Purpose

Middle School interscholastic athletics are an essential element of the education of students because they foster the development of character, life skills, sportsmanship and teamwork. In addition, our athletic programs strive to develop a positive self image and encourage physical activity as a part of a healthy lifestyle. Educational athletics serve as a source of school pride and maintain positive relationships between schools and communities. While schools recognize the pride in winning, it does not supersede the educational goals of middle school athletics.

Common Practices

Schools participating in this scheduling group agree to these common practices. Participating schools will:

- encourage participation by all students.
- group student-athletes, whenever possible, **by grade level rather than ability based teams.**
- provide playing time that is **commensurate over the course of the season**, providing school requirements for athletic participation are met.
- focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, and the acquisition of individual knowledge and skills. As we are not a league, there will be **no** season standings, awards or culminating events within the group.
- schedule 6-12 contests per team, per season.

Expectations for Participants

All schools expect each student-athlete to:

- attend all practices and games.
- commit to skill improvement and individual contribution toward team goals.
- display respect for their teammates, coaches, opponents and officials.
- demonstrate a positive attitude and good sportsmanship.
- represent themselves, their team and their school in a positive manner.
- maintain good academic standing in accordance with school policy.

Expectations for Parents and Spectators

All schools expect parents and spectators to:

- display respect for players, coaches, opponents, officials and guests.
- enjoy the thrill of competition and be supportive of your team without being negative towards others.
- appreciate the efforts of your child and their team regardless of the contest outcome.
- support the coach(es) and get to know them, encourage your child to fulfill their commitment and solve their own problems appropriately.
- praise generously, criticize sparingly.

Schools are in agreement that while winning is a goal of athletics, the ultimate objective of middle school athletics is to encourage all participants to reach their full potential (physically, socially and emotionally) within a context of common purpose and collective achievement.

Participating Schools: Colorado Academy, Denver Christian, Graland Country Day, International School of Denver, Kent Denver School, St. Anne's Episcopal School, St. Mary's Academy, Stanley British Primary

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