



For Current Student Athletes & Parents/Guardians

Athlete's Code of Conduct

Student-athletes at Mount Saint Joseph Academy are expected to always exhibit appropriate conduct. Members of all athletic teams are bound by the rules and regulations as stated in the Mount Saint Joseph Academy Student Handbook. Particular attention should be paid to the following and specific sanctions that will result when violations occur:

- Student-athletes may not intentionally come in physical contact with any official, team member, coach, and/or opposing fan.
- Student-athletes may not verbally abuse any official, team member, opposing team member, coach, and/or opposing fan.
- Student-athletes must refrain from misconduct while traveling or in their representation of Mount Saint Joseph Academy, especially in areas of alcohol, tobacco, illegal substances, theft, or vandalism of property and/or equipment.
- Student-athletes will refrain from any form of hazing of team members. Please refer to the student handbook hazing definition.
- General misconduct. Severity of sanctions will be determined by the Athletic Director after consultation with the coach, involved parties, and the principal when deemed appropriate. The above-mentioned situations are not inclusive, and the Athletic Director will administer penalties when deemed appropriate.
- Sanctions may include, but are not limited to the following: § Written reprimand to the involved party(ies):
 - Suspension from practice(s)
 - Suspension from competition(s)
 - Suspension from all team activities for a specific time
 - Restitution ordered for damages and/or theft;
 - Expulsion from the team for the remainder of the academic year.

Student-Athlete Conflict Resolution Procedure

When a problem arises for a student-athlete, the following steps are to be followed to address the situation:

- Step 1: Athlete goes to the Head or Assistant Coach and presents concerns. If not resolved:
- Step 2: Athlete and Head Coach meet with the Athletic Director. If not resolved:
- Step 3: Athlete, Head Coach and Athletic Director meet with the Principal. If not resolved:
- Step 4: Athlete, Head Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal meet with the President

Parents/Guardians-Coach Communication

Athletics promotes the establishment of good communication between parents/guardians and coaches. It is assumed that parents/guardians and coaches will understand their respective roles to best support our student-athletes. To promote effective communication, the following guidelines should be followed:

Parents/Guardians may expect to learn from coaches' information about:

- The coach's and program's philosophy as well as Individual and team expectations
- Location and times of all practices and games
- Team requirements (i.e., practices, equipment, off-season conditioning)
- Procedures regarding injuries during practices/games
- Positive behavior expectations and non-mission aligned behavior that may result in the denial of participation

Parents/Guardians are expected to:

- Express concerns directly to the coach
- Notify coaches well in advance of any schedule conflicts
- Support the program
- Encourage students to strive for excellence

Appropriate concerns for parents/guardians to discuss with coaches include, but are not limited to:

- Students' psychological or physical treatment
- Ways to help students develop and improve
- Concerns regarding students' behavior during athletics

Inappropriate concerns for parent/guardians to discuss with coaches include, but are not limited to:

- The amount of playing time for students
- Team strategies or play calls
- Other student-athletes

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A note on playtime: Perhaps one of the most emotional parts of being a student-athlete centers around playing time. It is the coach's responsibility to decide which athletes should start a contest, which position, and how long an athlete should play. These decisions are often difficult to make, parents, and students are expected to respect the coaching staff's decisions.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with a coach, the parents/guardians should:

- Encourage the student to exercise her voice and consult her coach directly
- Call to set up an appointment with the coach. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director who will help to set up a meeting with the coach
- Not confront a coach before, after, or during a practice or game, or contact them at home
- After meeting with a coach, if a parent/guardian still has concerns, the parents/guardians should:
 - Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. While the administration wishes to remain receptive to parents/guardian's concerns and questions, the administration is not involved in the day

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