



**DUBLIN**  
CITY SCHOOLS

# **ATHLETIC PLAYBOOK**

***FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES,  
FAMILIES AND COACHES***

VALUE

**Take Responsibility** *Own Your Attitude & Action*

BEHAVIORS

- Press Pause and Think.
- Do the Right Thing.
- Be Present.

OUTCOME

**Prepared  
for Success**

VALUE

**Always Growing** *Embrace the Journey*

BEHAVIORS

- Do the Work.
- Learn from Success and Failure.
- Be Coachable.

OUTCOME

**Best  
Version  
of You**

VALUE

**Better Together** *Think Team*

BEHAVIORS

- Care and Communicate.
- Connect and Collaborate.
- Celebrate

OUTCOME

**Elite  
Learning  
Community**

# OUR CULTURE

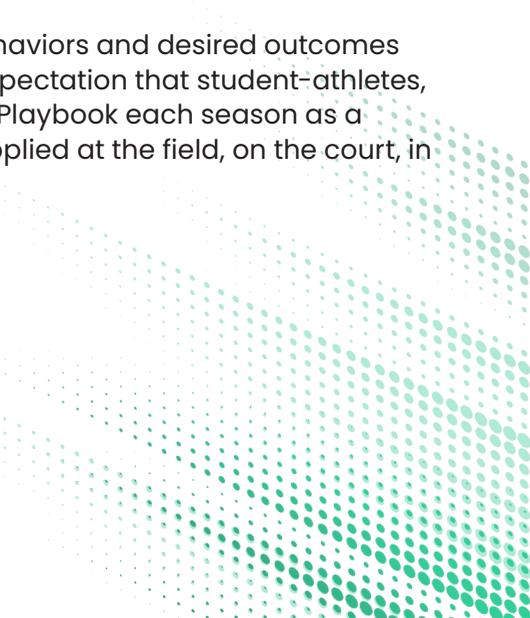
Welcome to the Athletic Playbook for Dublin City Schools. This playbook serves as a road map for fostering our district's culture, values, behaviors, and outcomes within athletics.

Our culture is the heart of our school community, shaping the unique environment that makes Dublin City Schools exceptional. It requires intentional effort from everyone involved.

Culture is reflected in our beliefs, actions, and the experiences we create and share. Our core values—**Take Responsibility, Always Growing,** and **Better Together**—set the standard for how we interact with each other. These values shape our behavior, reinforce our culture and drive the success of not only our schools, but also our athletic programs.

Our aim is not merely to list principles but to cultivate an environment where everyone consistently exhibits behaviors that lead to outstanding experiences and results for our student-athletes.

This Athletic Playbook outlines crucial behaviors and desired outcomes that align with our core values. It is our expectation that student-athletes, families and coaches review the Athletic Playbook each season as a reminder of how our culture should be applied at the field, on the court, in the stands, or on the sidelines.



*WHAT OUR CULTURE  
MEANS FOR*

# **STUDENT- ATHLETES**

## VALUE

# TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

## BEHAVIORS

### PRESS PAUSE AND THINK.

- ★ **Assess the Situation:** Evaluate the event and consider potential outcomes before acting.
- ★ **Seek Clarity:** Ask, 'What is needed from me?' to make thoughtful and intentional decisions.
- ★ **Control Your Response:** Align your actions with your goals and values, impacting your team and personal development.
- ★ **Act with Intentionality:** Be intentional in your responses versus reacting with emotion to achieve the best possible outcomes.

### DO THE RIGHT THING.

- ★ **Play with Integrity:** Follow through on commitments to your team and coaches, and always show great sportsmanship.
- ★ **Build Trust:** Be reliable by earning the trust of your team through consistent behavior in practices and games.
- ★ **Communicate Clearly:** Talk directly and candidly to teammates and coaches, not about them.

### BE PRESENT.

- ★ **Focus on the Present:** Take action in the moment to win the moment.
- ★ **Stay in the Moment:** Learn from the past and prepare for the future, but concentrate on the present and embrace the moment.
- ★ **Engage:** Maintain disciplined focus during practices and games.

## OUTCOME

# PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

## VALUE

# ALWAYS GROWING

## BEHAVIORS

### DO THE WORK.

- ★ **Embrace Hard Work:** Commit to putting in the effort and dedication needed to achieve your goals.
- ★ **Push Through Challenges:** Persevere through discomfort and obstacles to improve and grow.
- ★ **Step Out of Your Comfort Zone:** Embrace productive discomfort.
- ★ **Commit to Continuous Improvement:** Push past boundaries where others might quit, striving for excellence on and off the field.

### LEARN FROM SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

- ★ **Repeat Successes:** Identify what works and aim to replicate it.
- ★ **Correct Mistakes:** Use failures as feedback and opportunities for growth.
- ★ **Stay Grounded:** Remain resilient by not allowing failure to discourage you or success to inflate your ego.
- ★ **Maintain a Positive Attitude:** Avoid blaming, complaining, or defending; focus on learning and moving forward.

### BE COACHABLE.

- ★ **Stay Humble:** Approach each day with energy and curiosity, ready to learn from coaches and teammates.
- ★ **Embrace Feedback:** Be accountable and open to coaching and feedback to improve your skills.
- ★ **Seek Insight:** Understand that others may see what you don't; use their perspectives to benefit your performance.
- ★ **Commit to Growth:** Always strive to improve every day.

## OUTCOME

# BEST VERSION OF YOU

## VALUE

# BETTER TOGETHER

## BEHAVIORS

### CARE AND COMMUNICATE.

- ★ **Listen Actively:** Take the time to fully understand teammates' and coaches' perspectives.
- ★ **Attack Problems, Not People:** Focus on finding effective solutions to issues without blaming others.
- ★ **Stay Engaged:** Work together to find solutions, even when you disagree.
- ★ **Assume Positive Intent:** Believe that teammates and coaches are acting in the team's best interest.

### CONNECT AND COLLABORATE.

- ★ **Prioritize the Team:** Always keep the team goals in mind. "Teamwork makes the dream work!"
- ★ **Communicate Effectively:** Engage in active listening to connect with teammates and coaches.
- ★ **Seek to Support:** Ask for help when needed, and look for ways to assist and uplift those around you.
- ★ **Foster Community:** Understand that teamwork and collaboration lead to greater success.

### CELEBRATE.

- ★ **Value Diversity:** Appreciate and respect the different backgrounds and perspectives of teammates and the community.
- ★ **Use Diverse Perspectives:** Leverage varied viewpoints to solve problems and achieve team goals.
- ★ **Show Appreciation:** Thank your teammates, coaches, and parents.
- ★ **Cultivate Gratitude:** Foster an attitude of gratitude, celebrating each other's successes.

## OUTCOME

# ELITE ATHLETIC COMMUNITY

*WHAT OUR CULTURE  
MEANS FOR*

# **COACHING STAFF**

## VALUE

# TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

## BEHAVIORS

### PRESS PAUSE AND THINK.

- ★ **Assess the Situation:** Before responding, evaluate the event and potential outcomes.
- ★ **Seek Clarity:** Ask, 'What does this situation require of me as a coach?' to make thoughtful and intentional decisions.
- ★ **Control Your Response:** Be intentional and skillful in your response to ensure a positive outcome.
- ★ **Act with Intentionality:** Align your coaching with the team's goals and values, considering the impact on athletes and their development.

### DO THE RIGHT THING.

- ★ **Lead with Integrity:** Model honesty and follow through on commitments to your team and their parents.
- ★ **Build Trust:** Establish trust through consistent, transparent actions and communications.
- ★ **Communicate Honestly:** Be open, straightforward, and skillful with athletes and their parents, even in difficult conversations.
- ★ **Respect Everyone:** Foster a respectful and supportive culture by communicating skillfully every day.

### BE PRESENT.

- ★ **Engage Fully:** Give your full attention to athletes during practices and games, minimizing distractions.
- ★ **Stay in the Moment:** Focus on current coaching opportunities and challenges, without dwelling on past mistakes or future worries. Win the moment!
- ★ **Pay Attention:** Observe and understand the needs and dynamics of your team, responding promptly and skillfully.
- ★ **Foster Engagement:** Encourage athletes to stay present and focused, setting an example through your own behavior.

## OUTCOME

# PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

## VALUE

# ALWAYS GROWING

## BEHAVIORS

### DO THE WORK.

- ★ **Commit to Hard Work:** Lead by example, showing dedication and effort in planning and preparation.
- ★ **Persevere:** Encourage resilience by pushing through obstacles and setbacks alongside your team with a “get to” mindset.
- ★ **Encourage Growth:** Push athletes to step out of their comfort zones, embracing productive discomfort as a path to improvement.
- ★ **Strive for Continuous Improvement:** Regularly seek ways to enhance your coaching techniques and strategies, always aiming for excellence.

### LEARN FROM SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

- ★ **Reflect on Outcomes:** Analyze both wins and losses to understand what worked and what didn't.
- ★ **Encourage Growth:** Use mistakes as learning opportunities for yourself and your athletes.
- ★ **Stay Grounded:** Celebrate successes without complacency and address failures without discouragement.
- ★ **Promote a Growth Mindset:** Foster an environment where mistakes are seen as feedback and opportunities to improve.

### BE COACHABLE.

- ★ **Embrace Humility:** Approach each day with a willingness to learn from others, including fellow coaches, athletes, and parents.
- ★ **Value Feedback:** Actively seek and be open to receiving feedback to improve and get better.
- ★ **Learn Continuously:** Stay updated on best practices and innovative techniques in coaching.
- ★ **Adapt and Adjust:** Embrace ongoing change and be flexible in your coaching approach.

## OUTCOME

# BEST VERSION OF YOU

# VALUE

# BETTER TOGETHER

## BEHAVIORS

### CARE AND COMMUNICATE.

- ★ **Listen Actively:** Take time to truly understand the concerns and perspectives of athletes and their parents.
- ★ **Focus on Solutions:** Solve problems effectively by keeping the team's best interests in mind.
- ★ **Stay Engaged:** Maintain open lines of communication with athletes and parents to foster trust and collaboration.
- ★ **Assume Positive Intent:** Approach interactions and conversations with a positive mindset.

### CONNECT AND COLLABORATE.

- ★ **Prioritize Team Goals:** Put the team's culture and goals above personal interests or individual agendas.
- ★ **Encourage Open Communication:** Provide clarity by actively communicating with athletes, coaches, and parents.
- ★ **Seek and Provide Support:** Collaborate closely with your colleagues to both receive and offer the necessary support.
- ★ **Build a Community:** Foster strong connections within the team and with the broader community, enhancing overall performance and support.

### CELEBRATE.

- ★ **Value Diversity:** Appreciate and respect the diverse backgrounds and perspectives within your team.
- ★ **Show Appreciation:** Every player plays an important role and is a valued member of the team. Regularly express gratitude to athletes and parents, acknowledging their efforts and contributions.
- ★ **Foster Gratitude:** Cultivate an attitude of gratitude within the team, celebrating growth and successes.

## OUTCOME

# ELITE ATHLETIC COMMUNITY

*WHAT OUR CULTURE  
MEANS FOR*

# **PARENTS AND SPECTATORS**

## VALUE

# TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

## BEHAVIORS

### PRESS PAUSE AND THINK.

- ★ **Stay Calm:** Before responding to a situation during the game, take a moment to collect your thoughts and remain calm.
- ★ **Assess the Situation:** Consider the impact of your responses on the athletes and the game.
- ★ **Respond Respectfully:** Choose your words and actions carefully to ensure they are supportive and positive. Respond with skill versus reacting with emotion.
- ★ **Be Intentional:** Focus on encouraging your student-athlete and their teammates, contributing to a positive culture.

### DO THE RIGHT THING.

- ★ **Model Integrity:** Be a role model for your student-athlete by not engaging in the consumption of alcohol or other substances prior to or during games or any athletic functions..
- ★ **Build Trust:** Consistently responding skillfully will ensure a respectful reputation for your team in the sports community.
- ★ **Communicate Respectfully:** Engage in positive and constructive conversations with coaches and other parents by demonstrating kindness in your actions and words during games.
- ★ **Support Everyone:** Encourage all athletes and the team, recognizing their efforts and promoting good sportsmanship.

### BE PRESENT.

- ★ **Engage Fully:** Give your full attention to the game, focusing on your student-athlete's efforts and the team's performance.
- ★ **Support Actively:** Show your support through positive and productive encouragement and responses.
- ★ **Stay Focused:** Focus on the present game or challenge, not past mistakes or future concerns. Embrace the moment.

## OUTCOME

# PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

## VALUE

# ALWAYS GROWING

## BEHAVIORS

### DO THE WORK.

- ★ **Support Consistently:** Show up regularly to games and events to demonstrate your support and commitment to your student-athlete and the team.
- ★ **Encourage Effort:** Acknowledge the hard work of your student-athlete and their teammates.
- ★ **Foster Growth:** Encourage your child to push through challenges and embrace improvement.
- ★ **Be a Role Model:** Display perseverance and dedication, setting a positive example for your student-athlete.

### LEARN FROM SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

- ★ **Celebrate Progress:** Acknowledge and celebrate the growth of your student-athlete and the team.
- ★ **Embrace Mistakes:** Remember that failure is a part of the learning process and encourage your child to see mistakes as opportunities to improve.
- ★ **Stay Grounded:** Keep successes in perspective and use failures as a chance to teach resilience and perseverance.
- ★ **Provide Support:** Offer constructive feedback and support, helping your child learn from every experience.

### BE COACHABLE.

- ★ **Stay Open-Minded:** Be willing to learn from coaches, officials, and other parents about how best to support your student-athlete.
- ★ **Accept Feedback:** Listen to constructive criticism and advice with a growth mindset.
- ★ **Adapt and Adjust:** Be willing to make changes to best support your student-athlete and the team.
- ★ **Show Humility:** Recognize that everyone, including parents, has room to grow and learn.

## OUTCOME

# BEST VERSION OF YOU

# VALUE

# BETTER TOGETHER

## BEHAVIORS

### CARE AND COMMUNICATE.

- ★ **Listen Actively:** Take time to understand your student-athlete's perspective regarding their athletic experience.
- ★ **Address Issues Respectfully:** Focus on solving problems without complaining or blaming others.
- ★ **Stay Engaged:** Maintain open communication with coaches, athletes, and other parents.
- ★ **Assume Positive Intent:** Approach coaching decisions with the mindset the coach is acting in the best interest of the team and your student-athlete by setting aside personal biases.

### CONNECT AND COLLABORATE.

- ★ **Support Team Goals:** Prioritize the team's collective objectives and success over individual interests.
- ★ **Engage in Dialogue:** Actively listen and communicate with coaches, other parents, and athletes.
- ★ **Offer Help:** Be proactive in providing assistance and support to the team and coaching staff.
- ★ **Build Community:** Foster a sense of unity and collaboration within the team and among families, enhancing overall support and performance.

### CELEBRATE.

- ★ **Value Diversity:** Appreciate and respect the diverse backgrounds and perspectives within the team.
- ★ **Recognize Contributions:** Acknowledge and celebrate the efforts and achievements of all student-athletes, not just your own.
- ★ **Show Appreciation:** Regularly express gratitude to coaches, officials, and other parents.
- ★ **Promote Positivity:** Foster an environment of gratitude and celebration, highlighting both individual and team successes.

## OUTCOME

# ELITE ATHLETIC COMMUNITY

# IN CONCLUSION

The Dublin City Schools Athletic Playbook is designed to help student-athletes, parents, and coaches make the most of their athletic experience. By adhering to our shared values, behaviors, and outcomes, we can ensure that our athletic programs remain focused on growth, learning and fun. Our ultimate goal is to help athletes develop into the best versions of themselves.

For your convenience, we've included a copy of the Spectator Expectations on the following page. These guidelines are shared with students and parents at the beginning of each school year via Final Forms, as well as at the start of every sports season. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your school's Athletic Department at any time. Thank you for reading the Athletic Playbook.



# SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

Dublin City Schools maintains a culture of expectations for all spectators participating in the athletic experience. We value your cooperation in adhering to the district's values as a spectator at athletic events. This is essential to provide a high-quality experience for everyone involved and to ensure an optimal environment for all student-athletes, coaches, officials, and fellow spectators.

## **Always Growing**

- ✓ I will learn and adhere to the policies of Dublin City Schools and its athletic programs, and strive to understand and appreciate the rules of the contest.
- ✓ I will respect the property and equipment used at any sports or school facility.
- ✓ I will applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, emphasizing the positive accomplishments and learning from the mistakes.

## **Better Together**

- ✓ I will contribute to making athletics and activities a positive experience for everyone involved (i.e., participants, coaches, officials, and spectators).
- ✓ I will promote good sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by being a positive role model at every event and practice.
- ✓ I will respect the decisions and authority of officials during competitions.
- ✓ I will show appreciation for outstanding play by either team.

## **Take Responsibility**

- ✓ I will refrain from any unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, parent, or staff member, such as taunting, using profane language, or making inappropriate gestures.
- ✓ I will advocate for a safe and healthy environment free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will abstain from their use at all athletic events.
- ✓ I will avoid engaging in disparaging dialogue or taunting behavior with officials, players, coaches, parents, and other spectators before, during, and after all events.
- ✓ I will refrain from coaching any player during games and practices unless I am officially designated as a coach.
- ✓ I will never ridicule or scold any participant for making a mistake, nor will I blame any player or coach for the success or failure in the athletic setting.

*Should any spectator fail to adhere to and uphold these responsibilities, Dublin City Schools and the school administration reserve the right to impose sanctions, including but not limited to temporary and/or permanent removal from the activity and expulsion from future events.*



**E + R = O**

Event + Response = Outcome

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*Scan to view our strategic  
plan, Journey 2030*

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*Scan to watch our  
Culture Playbook video*

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*Scan to visit our  
district website*

***Culture is not built by what you proclaim.  
It is built by what you practice, promote, and permit.***

