



St. Johns County School District

Pursuing Victory with Honor Parent Contract

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) 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 the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and this Contract can dramatically improve the quality of a child's sports experience.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- ❖ **Trustworthiness**- Be worthy of trust in all you do.
- ❖ **Integrity**- Live up to high ideals of ethics-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 requires 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 or actions, trash-talking, taunting, hazing, 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 contact for college and university coaches in the recruiting process.

- ❖ **Role Modeling-** Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right. Parent/guardians should also 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 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.

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 demonstrates concern for student-athletes as individuals, and encourages them to look out for one another and think and act as a team. Helps promote the well-being of student athletes by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous or illegal conduct to a school authority (coaches, administrators, teachers, etc.)

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 the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and this Contract. I acknowledge that my child may be disciplined or removed from a team if he/she violates any of their provisions. I also acknowledge that I am responsible for my behavior at athletic events. Any behavior that is deemed unruly, unsafe, disruptive or illegal in nature could be cause for removal from the athletic event, and I may lose the privilege to attend future events as deemed appropriate by school administration.

Parent/Guardian Signature **Date**

Print Name **Date**

Sport **Student's Name**

Our athletic program endorses "Pursuing Victory with Honor" and the "Six Pillars of Character", a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics. www.charactercounts.org/sports