

C.A. Jacobs Intermediate Schools' Athletic Code of Ethics

SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPORTS EVENTS

One mission of the C.A. Jacobs' Athletic program is to teach appropriate conduct to our student athletes and to reinforce values relating to wholesome competition, good sportsmanship and fair play.

It is our expectation that spectators assist in this goal by exhibiting appropriate behavior at all athletic events. Often spectators fail to remember the primary role of interscholastic athletics is to prepare students to be good citizens, become better adults, learn new skills, and have fun! Spectators must act as role models of sportsmanship for all athletes and promote a healthy perception of success. Sporting events are a unique opportunity for spectators to be a part of a positive and productive learning environment and to model appropriate behavior in a school setting.

Spectators are asked to provide student athletes with positive encouragement and support and show respect for opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups. Spectators should also refrain from badgering, taunting, or intimidating the officials and opponents. Such behavior is unfriendly, unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Student athletes are not professional athletes. They will make errors in the course of competition, as will officials and coaches. However, all participants are trying their best. Negative criticism will not bring about positive results and are unacceptable forms of expression. Assistance may be given to athletes by focusing attention on the positive aspects of their performance. Your cooperation is important and appreciated.

Failure to abide by this spectator code of ethics will result in the spectator privileges being revoked for the remainder of the year.

PARENT / STUDENT-ATHLETE / COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our athletic program(s), you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program. Please understand that participation in sports is a privilege and is NOT a legal right.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team.
- Locations and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements, i.e., practices, special equipment, conditioning exercises.
- Disciplinary actions that may result in the denial of your child's privilege to participate.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
- Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

- Treatment of your child.
- Improving your child's athletic performance.
- Educational performance related to Athletic Eligibility.

Issues that are not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENTS AND STUDENT ATHLETICS - COMMUNICATION

Athletics provide students opportunities to compete, to challenge themselves and to learn to function as members of a team. This endeavor is, by its nature, frequently trying and frustrating. Parents should try to understand this and to keep athletics in perspective. Below is a short list of ‘do’s’ and “don’ts” that has been compiled by coaches, veteran parents and administrators.

“Don’t”:

- Speak negatively about other members of the team.
- Coach from the sideline.
- Criticize your student-athlete’s performance after a game, match or meet.
- Confront the coach after a game or practice as this can be an emotional time for all involved.

“Do”:

- Encourage your student-athlete to work hard at practice and in games.
- Encourage your student-athlete to be a good teammate.
- Encourage your student-athlete to speak with the coach if there is a conflict at a mutually agreed upon time, not before or after a game.

THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES SHOULD BE USED IF THERE IS A CONCERN:

Athletics can be an emotional endeavor and occasionally conflict will arise. If you have an athletic issue concerning your student ---athlete, please consider the “12 hour rule” – that is, please wait 12 hours before contacting the coach. We have found that if all parties involved with an athletic conflict take time to reflect on the situation, the ensuing conversation will be based less on emotions and more on facts. While the “12 hour rule may not resolve your concern it might prevent a misunderstanding from escalating into an adversarial situation. If after 12 hours you still feel that the situation merits attention, the following process is to be utilized to address and resolve misunderstandings, concerns and issues.

Step 1:

- Student Athletes will share and address concerns with their coach/es and attempt to resolve them. It is important for the student athlete to pursue this step before parents become involved. Athletics should serve as an opportunity in which the student athlete gains a voice in advocating his/her position.

Step 2:

- If step 1 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, the student athlete *and* parents should address and share concerns with the coach/es in an attempt to resolve them.

Step 3:

- If step 2 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, the student athlete *and* parents should address and share concerns with the athletic director in an attempt to resolve them.

Step 4:

- If step 3 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, the student athlete *and* parents should address and share concerns with the Principal of the school in an attempt to resolve them.

VIOLATIONS OF C.A. JACOBS’ BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES & DISCIPLINE

Athletes found to be in violation of C.A. Jacobs’ behavior guidelines of discipline **during the school day or at a school sponsored event** will be subject to the consequences as outlined in the school’s Student Handbook.

Signature: _____ Date: _____