

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

EXPECTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Statement of Purpose

Middle school interscholastic athletics and activities are an essential element of the education of students because they foster the development of character, life skills, sportsmanship and teamwork.

The athletic programs contribute to a positive self-image, and encourage physical activity as a part of a healthy lifestyle. They serve as a source of school pride, and build positive relationships between schools and communities. While St. Mary's Academy recognizes pride in winning, the means supersede the ends.

Participation in athletics and activities at St. Mary's Academy is a privilege extended to participants who are willing and able to model/live the following examples of the Loretto Values.

RESPECT

- 1. Attend and participate** in all practices, games, and performances. **** Family vacation days and routine dental/medical appointments are NOT considered as excused absences for the WILDCAT AWARD criteria. Students may use a "grace day" for an unexcused absence if they have one available.**
- 2. Dress properly** for practice and games. Proper dress includes "GYM ONLY" shoes that will be worn only in the gyms – never outside. This is vital to keep the wood floors clean and safe. For safety reasons, students will not be permitted to practice in socks only or bare feet.
- 3. Demonstrate respect** for players, coaches, and officials.
- 4. Listen and follow directions.**
- 5. Demonstrate interest/enthusiasm** for the sports experience.
- 6. Work hard and focus** during practice and games.
- 7. Acknowledge and appreciate** the efforts of others.
- 8. Thank** officials, scorekeepers, team parents, and fans.
- 9. Congratulate** and shake hands with opponents after each event. **Cheer positively** for others.

FAITH

- 1. Display positive values.**
- 2. Be a good role model.**
- 3. Be honest** and show integrity.
- 4. Keep your word.**

JUSTICE

- 1. Play fair.** Play by the rules and guidelines.
- 2. Call the correct scores; be on your honor.**
- 3. Show support;** be patient with equal playing time

COMMUNITY

- 1. Demonstrate teamwork;** help teammates in practice, make a commitment to improve skills and contribute to team goals, cheer from the bench
- 2. Be on time.** Schedule appointments after practice times. ****routine appointments are unexcused**
- 3. Take care** of equipment, uniforms, and facilities. Clean up team area and buses after games.

4. **Store and lock personal belongings** in lockers. Keep backpacks in locker room. Bring clean clothes and demonstrate personal hygiene habits.
5. **Assist in preparing the gym/field before and after games.** Students can help set-up chairs and score table, move team benches or bleachers, arrange safety mats, set cones and corner flags, and move goals.
6. **Remove cleats** and dirty shoes before entering the hallway.
7. **Follow community guidelines.** Eat snacks in designated eating areas. Keep practice and game balls in the gym and out of the locker rooms and hallway. Wear a different pair of shoes across campus in order to keep “GYM ONLY” shoes clean when practicing in the lower school building.

I have read the expectations of a St. Mary’s Academy Middle School athlete, and I agree to model/live the examples of the Loretto Values. If I fail to meet the expectations I understand that I may be asked to leave practice, have my playing time reduced, be suspended from game(s), or be removed from the team. **I also understand that I will NOT be considered for the WILDCAT AWARD if I do not meet these expectations.**

Student signature

Date

Expectations for the Parents/Guardians of SMA Middle School Student-Athletes

1. Display respect for all athletes, coaches, opponents, officials and guests.
2. Enjoy the thrill of competition and be supportive of your team without being negative toward others.
3. Appreciate the efforts of your child and his/her team regardless of the outcome of the contest.
4. Support the coach and get to know her/him.
5. Encourage your child to fulfill his/her commitment and solve his/her own problems/concerns appropriately.
6. Praise generously.
7. PLEASE avoid scheduling appointments during practice times. Emergency appointments are excused, however, when a student misses practice for a routine check-up, the coach will record this as an unexcused absence from practice. The student “may” use a grace day if one is available.
8. Notify the coach in advance if your child is going to miss a practice or game.
9. Sign the Middle School Expectations and Responsibilities form after you and your child have read and discussed this agreement. ** This form can be viewed on the SMA Athletic website under “Files & Links”

** Equal playing time may be distributed in each game, in alternating contests, or throughout the season.
**** Students must make a full commitment to the team and model the examples of the Loretto Values outlined above in order to be eligible for the WILDCAT AWARD. Family vacation days and routine dental/medical appointments are NOT considered as excused absences for the WILDCAT AWARD criteria. Students may use a “grace day” for these days if they have not used all of their “grace” days.**

I have read the parent expectations outlined above, and reviewed the student-athlete expectations with my child. I agree to support and encourage my child in meeting these expectations.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

