

# **Code of Conduct For Washington Junior High School Athletics**

Being an athlete requires more than just joining or making a team; it creates many demands that require sacrifice and responsibility. Being an athlete is a privilege. If the individual is willing to accept the burden of responsibility, athletics will repay the athlete with many rewards. At Washington Junior High School, one who decides to participate as an athlete accepts the responsibilities contained within this code of conduct.

## **Preamble**

**Participation in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or teams representing different schools. It is much more than winning or losing. All athletes should exhibit the 6 traits of good character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. It also means understanding and appreciating the meaning of teamwork and sportsmanship. This guide will help young athletes by establishing a code for their conduct, which is always closely observed by so many on and off the court, field, mat or track.**

### **Washington athletes:**

1. Exhibit acceptable standards of citizenship. All students are expected to follow the District 203 School Policy.
2. Will maintain satisfactory academic proficiency, and they will abide by the eligibility rules, procedures and outcomes.
3. Realize that any use of profanity or obscene, spoken, written or gesture is a sign of weakness rather than strength, and that it will not be tolerated.
4. Do not believe in quitting. They never quit during a contest or practice, even when winning seems hopeless. An athlete who quits a team is not eligible to participate in another sport that same season.
5. Realize that although winning is one of their goals, they must learn to maintain modesty in victory. Athletes also know that losing is part of the game, and they are gracious in defeat.
6. Show good sportsmanship. When an athletic contest ends, athletes are courteous and congratulate opponents on a good effort.

7. Exercise self-control at all times. Do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration and have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
8. Develop and have respect – in their team, teammates, coaches, school, and most importantly, in themselves.
9. Encourage and support their teammates at all times. They never criticize a teammate nor blame someone for a bad play or a loss. A successful team works together, and wins and loses together.
10. Treat officials with respect. Do not complain or argue with official's decisions.
11. Directly represent Washington Junior High School, the local community, and their coaches when they are involved in an activity, sports-related or otherwise, which brings them into contact with others.
12. Understand that one cannot be in top physical and mental condition for athletic endeavors if one uses alcohol, tobacco or drugs.
13. Are responsible for taking care of all school equipment and uniforms. The clothing items are returned clean at the end of the season. Athletes know they must pay for any items that are lost or damaged.
14. Keep the locker room in proper order. All clothes should be kept off the floor, **lockers should be kept locked at all times when not attended**, and when on road trips, the opponent's locker room should be left in good condition.
15. Understand there is a direct correlation between practice time and play time.
16. Will not be eligible to practice or play in a contest on days when they have been excused from physical education class for medical or health reasons.
17. Understand that if one receives a detention to be served the day of a contest, one will not be able to participate in the contest until the detention is served.
18. Understand that they are students first and athletes second.

**Students are subject to disciplinary action for misconduct or disobedience occurring on school grounds, at school sponsored activities, in connection with student transportation or at any place where the misconduct or disobedience has a reasonable relationship to the school.**

### CONSEQUENCES

1 day in, out, or Saturday school suspension = Miss 1 contest

2 days in, out, or Saturday school suspension = Miss 2 contests  
3 or more days in, out, or Saturday school suspension = Miss 3 contests  
Please sign this portion and return it to your coach.

**Together as parent/guardian and athlete, we have read and agreed upon the Code of Conduct for Washington Junior High School athletics. We understand the goals and expectations of student-athletes at Washington Junior High School, and we will accept the responsibility for our actions.**

**We, as parents pledge our support of the school's administration and coaches' decisions to uphold the Code of Conduct.**

**Keep the Code of Conduct for your reference.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athlete Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sport

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