

Code of Conduct for District 203 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 traits of good character. 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.

District 203 athletes:

1. Exhibit acceptable standards of citizenship. All students are expected to follow 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 obscenity, spoken, written or gestured 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. Athletes never quit a team once they have joined. 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. Develop and have pride – in their team, teammates, coaches, school, and most importantly, in themselves.
8. 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.
9. Do not dispute any official's decision. It is assumed that all participants in the management of a game, coaches and officials, are doing their best, just as it is assumed the athletes are trying their best. Coaches will represent individual athletes and the team in any dispute with game officials. Disrespect toward an official will not be tolerated.
10. Speak with respect to all students, faculty, and staff at District 203 Junior High Schools or at any other school. Insubordination and disrespect will not be tolerated.

District 203 athletes:

11. Directly represent District 203 Junior High Schools, the local community, and their coaches when they are involved in an activity, sports-related or otherwise, which brings them into contact with others. Therefore, they conduct themselves in such a way as to be a credit to all parties concerned.
12. Stay in top shape both physically and mentally to avoid injuries both in and out of season.
13. Understand that one cannot be in top physical and mental condition for athletic endeavors if one uses alcohol, tobacco or drugs.
14. Accept the responsibility for taking proper care of all school equipment and uniforms. The clothing items are returned clean at the end of the season. Athletes know they must make restitution for any lost or damaged equipment issued to them. Athletes will not be invited to try out for another sport until all equipment and/or uniforms are returned or until restitution is made.
15. 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 in a better condition than it was found.
16. Understand there is a direct correlation between practice time and play time.
17. Will be out of the school building no later than one-half hour after a game, contest or practice.
18. 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.
19. Are concerned with more than just the sport in which they are participating. Athletes support all activities at District 203 Junior High Schools.
20. 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
21. Understand that they must attend a minimum of four (4) periods on the day of a contest in order to be eligible to compete in that contest.
22. Understand that they are expected to ride the bus to and from each away contest unless the coach has received prior written permission from the athlete's parent/guardian.
23. Understand that they are students first and athletes second.
24. Know that any substantiated report of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.

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 school.

Disciplinary action may result in loss of practice or playing time.

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 District 203 athletics. We understand the goals and expectations of student-athletes for District 203 Junior High Schools 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.

Student Name (printed) _____

Parent Signature

Date

Athlete Signature

Date

Sport