

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL, JANESVILLE**  
**ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS**

**ST. PAUL'S ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY**

We believe that each child is a child of God's and should be educated in the physical development of his/her body to use the physical talents the Lord has given to him/her to their fullest. In addition to the development of talents we believe our athletic program should also foster the development of character, respect, honesty, responsibility, sacrifice, and self-discipline. As Christ is the center of our lives so He is also in, with, under, and through our athletic philosophy.

As an extension of St. Paul's athletic philosophy, the athletic code of conduct for parents has been developed. Appropriate behavior is expected from the athletes themselves, parent spectators, and coaches. The following code includes the rules and guidelines which will promote a sports environment that reflects the Christian values of St. Paul's Lutheran School.

To be considered for a position on any team, the athlete must sign the athletic code for students (separate document). Both parents must sign this code of conduct for parents, thus agreeing to abide by its rules. The signature sheet will be kept on file with the athletic director.

I therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports or other extra-curricular activities.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game/activity is for students, not adults.
3. I will make an effort to learn and familiarize myself with the rules of the game, expectations of the activities and the policies of the program.
4. I (and my family members/guests) will be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship/Christian behavior, by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all participants, players, adult leaders, coaches, officials, and spectators at every performance, game, practice and other events.
5. I (and my family members/guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; using profane language or gestures or fighting and violence.
6. I will obey the Second Commandment; I will not use the name of the Lord inappropriately.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health or well-being of the participants.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treats other participants, players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or by his/her performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child, group leader, coach, or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development to coincide with improved performance, winning and losing.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the participants and athletes ahead of any personal desire I/my child may have to win/succeed.
15. I will never question, discuss, or confront coaches' or directors' decisions at the event, but will take time to speak with coach or director at an agreed upon time and place.
16. I will demand an environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol. I will refrain from their use at all of these events.
17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players/participants during games, performances and practices, unless I am one of the coaches/directors.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following. These are not sequential actions and may be used as deemed necessary by the administrator / athletic director.

- A. Verbal warning by the Athletic Director or Principal.
- B. Written warning
- C. Game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file
- D. Season suspension (possibly jeopardizing future involvement in sports programs)