

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

We understand that the Coaches are leaders, and are dedicated to more than the X's and O's of competition. As a professional educator, leader and role model for students, the high school Coach will:

- Exemplify the highest moral character as a role model for young people.
- Recognize the individual worth and reinforce the self-image of each team member.
- Establish a realistic team goal or vision for each season and communicate that to the athletes and parents.
- Encourage and assist team members to set personal goals to achieve their highest academic potential.
- Create a set of training rules for athletes that reflect the positive values of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (performance degrading substances).
- Strive to develop the qualities of competence, character, civility and citizenship in each team member.
- Provide a safe, challenging and encouraging environment for practice and competition.
- Gain an awareness of the importance of prevention, care and treatment of athletic injuries.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials.
- Teach and abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Build and maintain ethical relationships with Coaches and administrators.
- Strive for excellence in coaching skills and techniques through professional improvement.
- Promote personal fitness and good nutrition.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Reinforce our alcohol, tobacco and other drug-free policies by refraining from the use of any such substances before and during athletic contests or any event associated with student-athletes including post season banquets, celebrations etc, while students are under your supervision.

ATHLETIC CONTRACT: COACH

Coach's Commitment

As the coach of the (boys or girls) _____ team, I am dedicated to more than the X's and O's of competition. I know that less than 2% of high school athletes go on to play team sports at the college level. Therefore, I understand that high school athletics provide students a unique opportunity for the development of not only physical conditioning and athletic skill, but also character traits essential for success in life. Recognizing my role as educator, leader and role model for students, for the next season I commit to:

- Exemplify the highest moral character as a role model for young people.
- Recognize the individual worth and reinforce the self-image of each team member.
- Establish a realistic team goal or vision for each season and communicate that to the athletes and parents.
- Encourage and assist team members to set personal goals to achieve their highest academic potential.
- Create a set of training rules for athletes that reflect the positive values of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (performance degrading substances).
- Strive to develop the qualities of competence, character, civility and citizenship in each team member, as outlined in the athletic code.
- Provide a safe, challenging and encouraging environment for practice and competition.
- Gain an awareness of the importance of prevention, care and treatment of athletic injuries.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials.
- Teach and abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Build and maintain ethical relationships with Coaches and administrators.
- Strive for excellence in coaching skills and techniques through professional improvement.
- Promote personal fitness and good nutrition.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

My signature below indicates my commitment to the above:

Date

Coach's Signature

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

We understand that parents play a vital role in the development of student athletes and the success of our Program. Therefore we encourage parents to:

- Be a positive role model through your own actions to make sure your child has the best athletic experience possible.
- Be a "team" fan, not a "my kid" fan.
- Weigh what your children say; they will tend to slant the truth to their advantage.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.
- Be respectful of all officials' decisions.
- Don't instruct your children before or after a game, because it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies.
- Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Help your child learn that success is experienced in the development of their skills and that they can feel good about themselves, win or lose.
- Take time to talk with coaches in an appropriate manner, including proper time and place, if you have a concern. Be sure to follow the designated chain of command.
- Please reinforce our alcohol, tobacco and other drug-free policies by refraining from the use of any such substances before and during athletic contests or any event associated with student athletes including post season banquets, celebrations etc
- Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest

ATHLETIC CONTRACT: PARENT

As a parent who is also committed to the education, maturity and athletic success of your child, I encourage you to make a formal commitment as described below. Our partnership together will increase the likelihood of a successful season, regardless of the final win/loss record of the team. I also ask you to note any expectations, goals or questions you have on the reverse side of this form so that I can consider them and respond where needed.

Coach _____

Parent’s Commitment

I understand that as a parent I play a vital role in the development of my child’s athletic ability and character, and therefore in the success of the School’s Athletic Program. Recognizing this role, I therefore commit to the following as a parent of a member of the (boys or girls) _____ team:

- Be a positive role model so that through my own actions I can help to make sure that my child has the best athletic experience possible.
- Be a "team" fan, not just a "my kid" fan.
- Weigh what my child says in any controversy, since it is normal for youth to tend to slant the truth to their advantage.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.
- Be respectful of all officials’ decisions.
- Not instruct my child before or after a game, because it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies.
- Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the sport.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Help my child learn that success is experienced in the development of his/her skills, and that he/she can feel positive about their skill development during the season, regardless of the team’s record.
- Take time to talk with coaches in an appropriate manner, including proper time and place, if I have a concern. I will respect the coach by following the designated chain of command.
- Support the alcohol, tobacco and other drug-free policies of our School by refraining from the use of any such substances before and during athletic contests. I will also support my child and hold him/her accountable for their commitment to non-use of substances as outlined in the Athletic Code.

My signature below indicates my commitment to the above.

Date **Parent/Guardian’s Signature**

ATHLETIC CONTRACT: STUDENT ATHLETE

As a member of the _____ team, I understand that you want to enjoy the season, participate as much as possible, and improve your athletic abilities in this sport...and win games (contests)! I am committed to making those things happen, and to reach our team goals for the season.

Your participation is dependent upon your willingness to work with me toward the goals below, and to live within the boundaries established in our School's athletic code. The things below describe the areas of personal development to which the School and I are asking you to make a commitment for the upcoming season. I also ask you to note any expectations, goals or questions you have on the reverse side of this form so that I can consider them and respond where needed.

Coach _____

Athlete's Commitment

I understand that participating in high school athletics gives me a special opportunity to develop not only my physical conditioning and athletic skill, but also character traits I need for success in life. I therefore commit to strive for the following during the upcoming season:

Competence - *The knowledge and skill I need to train and effectively compete*

- To develop the skills necessary to participate competently in the sport.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the rules and conventions of the sport.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the strategies of the sport.
- To demonstrate a level of physical conditioning and fitness sufficient to participate competently in the sport.
- To demonstrate knowledge of healthy behaviors, including nutritional issues.
- To understand the necessity of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in order to achieve the positive benefits of interscholastic athletics.

Character – *My beliefs, attitudes and skills that support moral behavior and represent the positive values of Sparta High School and the greater community*

- To be dependable in fulfilling obligations and commitments.
- To accept responsibility for consequences of actions and not to make excuses or blame others.
- To strive to excel.
- To be committed.
- To persevere, give 100% effort and not give up in the face of setbacks.
- To be honest.
- To play by the rules of the sport and not cheat.
- To control anger and frustration and refrain from displays of temper and bad language.
- To accept losing and winning graciously; to congratulate opponents, not sulk, or display other negative behaviors.

Civility – Behavior *that shows respect and concern for others – treating them, as I would want to be treated.*

- To practice good manners on and off the field.
- To refrain from trash talk and other put- downs of opponents and teammates
- To treat all persons respectfully regardless of individual differences to show respect for legitimate authority (Coaches, captains and officials).
- To be fair and treat others as one wishes to be treated.
- To listen to and try to understand others.
- To be compassionate and sensitive to others.
- To actively support teammates and others.

Citizenship – *Understanding that being part of a team is about my responsibility to my teammates, and not just about what’s important to me:*

- To be faithful to the ideals of the game including sportsmanship.
- To keep commitments to my team.
- To show team spirit, encourage others and contribute to good morale.
- To put the good of the team ahead of my personal gain.
- To work well with teammates to achieve team goals.
- To accept responsibility to set a good example for teammates, younger athletes, fans and school community.

My signature below indicates my commitment to the above and my willingness to live within the boundaries established in our School’s athletic code and to accept the logical consequences for violations.

Date **Athlete’s Signature**

Athlete’s Personal and/or Team Goals:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

PLEASE DETACH THIS PAGE AND RETURN TO YOUR COACH

Parent/Guardians must understand and agree to the conditions for involvement for their son or daughter in order for them to participate in athletics.

The parent(s) or guardian(s) shall read all of the enclosed material and acknowledge understanding of the athletic eligibility rules and policies. The parent(s) or guardian(s) shall sign and return the Responsibility Acknowledgement Agreement to the Athletic Department prior to participating in any practice or contests.

I have read the Sparta High School Student Athletic Code Handbook including the rules, regulations and policies. I fully understand its meaning and consequences and support its enforcement by persons responsible.

Please sign and return to your coach. This form will be kept on file in the athletic administrator's office. Thank you for your cooperation and support. You may not participate in interscholastic athletics until this form is signed and returned to your coach.

SIGNATURE OF ATHLETE

Date

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Date

Received by the Athletic Department _____
(Date)