

## **Archdiocesan High Schools Athletics Code of Behavior**

1. The **CONDUCT** of all involved in education based athletics: student athletes, coaches, and parents must represent the Catholic educational institutions that they represent at all times. An expectation of Christian language and behaviors is always required and any deviation from this standard is never acceptable in any athletic setting or contest and will not be tolerated.
2. Student spectators and fans are expected to **CHEER** for their team and never against the other team or individuals. Isolating a member of another team through taunting or cheers is never acceptable in any athletic contest and will not be tolerated. Students, parents, and fans are there to support the missions of their school and uphold the fan expectations of education based athletics.
3. All Archdiocesan school athletic teams **REPRESENT** the Catholic church and the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Teams should never humiliate or embarrass a competing school by winning by a margin of victory that is not within normal reason within a sport. Teams and coaches are 100% responsible for their own scores and points and should always remember that their margin of victory represents the broader beliefs of our Catholic faith. Humility is essential in all athletics. All athletic contests should represent the mission of their Catholic school and any deviation from this standard will not be tolerated.
4. Student and Coaches use of **SOCIAL MEDIA** must always reflect the values and teachings of the Catholic church. Social Media is a vehicle to help communicate information about and help promote an athletic program or team. As such, social media postings should be informative and positive in nature. They should never engage another school or any athletes from an opposing school in any matter that does not lift up their opponent and celebrate the gifts and talents of one another. Student Athletes and Coaches are always representing their Catholic schools through their social media posts. There is no separation between personal accounts and professional accounts. All social media posts should always represent the mission of their Catholic school and any deviation from this standard will not be tolerated.
5. Coaches are Catholic school **EDUCATORS** first and foremost and in every setting, academic, athletic, or otherwise. Coaches should always emulate the values and virtues of education based athletics in a Catholic school. Coaches are the first example of Christian behavior and they are the leaders of the student athletes they teach. Their conduct will always be scrutinized by those observing them, and as such they must always represent their Catholic school with the highest standards. Any deviation from this standard will not be tolerated.
6. Administrators are responsible for the **SUPERVISION** of all athletic events including students, parents, and general fans. It is their responsibility to ensure that everyone attending an athletic contest is safe and can enjoy the game without their experience being negatively affected by the inappropriate behaviors of others. If spectators are acting inappropriately the Administrators in charge should address those individuals immediately and apply the appropriate consequences for their behavior.

It is each local school's responsibility to enforce this **Archdiocesan High Schools Athletics Code of Behavior**. In situations where the local school is not enforcing this to the standard of expectation, further action may be required by the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education and Formation.