



Student-Athlete **Code of Conduct**



Dear Student Athlete,

We are so proud that many Cincinnati Public Schools' students are stepping up to become our ambassadors on the playing fields and courts. Athletic competition offers opportunities to develop physical talents as well as to learn the value of teamwork, concentration and persistence. These habits also can be strong assets in the classroom, so it's not surprising that CPS' student athletes do better in school than students who don't participate in sports.

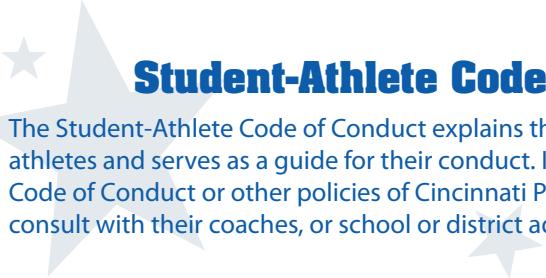
As leaders, student athletes have a responsibility to conduct themselves according to high standards. Students who earn the honor of wearing their schools' team uniforms must set a good example for other students as well as for the fans.

This Code of Conduct's major themes — respect, fairness, consideration of others and self-control — should be reflected at all times.

I am counting on your leadership to set the tone for appropriate behavior at all CPS' athletic events. Good luck in your athletic and academic endeavors!

Sincerely,

Rosa Blackwell
Superintendent



Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

The Student-Athlete Code of Conduct explains the responsibilities of student athletes and serves as a guide for their conduct. If there are questions about this Code of Conduct or other policies of Cincinnati Public Schools, students should consult with their coaches, or school or district administrators.

★ Responsibilities As A Student

Your responsibility as a student in Cincinnati Public Schools is to make progress toward a high-school diploma.

Your primary goal as a student is to obtain an education and earn a high-school diploma. While time commitments are demanding during your athletic season, you should never lose sight of the goal of completing the requirements needed to graduate. After graduation, we want you to be proud of your academic achievements, which will allow you to pursue a college education or a satisfying career.

To carry out your responsibilities as a student, you must:

Maintain quarterly academic eligibility.

- ★ To participate in athletics, you must have passing grades from the previous academic quarter in a minimum of five courses that count toward graduation and must maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA). *
- ★ Students with a GPA between 1.0 and 2.0 may participate in athletics if they take part in academic intervention programs set up by the school, such as tutoring sessions, weekly eligibility checks, etc.

** Note: Our GPA standards are higher than the minimum GPA (1.0) required by the Ohio High School Athletic Association.*



★ **Responsibilities As An Athlete**

Your responsibility as an athlete is to represent with integrity the people and values associated with Cincinnati Public Schools.

The athletic program is a highly visible part of Cincinnati Public Schools. As a student athlete, your attitudes, actions and statements constantly are in the public eye and reflect directly on your school and the district. Because of this, you have a special responsibility to represent them well.

As an athlete, you are responsible for promoting the following core values:

Respect

Show respect by treating yourself, other people and your sport according to the highest standards of conduct. Respect calls for civilized and gracious behavior towards players, coaches, fans and parents.

Responsibility

Show responsibility by making academic progress towards graduation. Solve problems rather than make excuses, and be a reliable team player. Students will be held accountable for their actions and personal decisions. Coaches and administrators will maintain high standards of student conduct and behavior.

Integrity

Show integrity by honoring your commitments and exhibiting honest behavior in your dealings with others. Displaying a high degree of personal integrity means one always does the right thing, even if no one else is watching.

Servant Leadership

Show servant leadership by putting the group first and being responsible for personal and team goals while performing at your personal best. Student athletes exhibit servant leadership by responding to the needs of others. Servant leaders provide the great gift of being a good example to others around them.

Sportsmanship

Show good sportsmanship by always following the highest standards of fair play. Administrators, coaches, student athletes, spectators and parents are expected to act correctly even when others do not, and to demonstrate fairness and equity at all times.

To carry out your responsibilities as an athlete, you must:

- 1. Display good sportsmanship.** You are expected to conform to established guidelines of sportsmanlike conduct, both on and off the playing field. Sportsmanlike conduct includes showing respect towards all who are in attendance at an athletic event: officials, coaches, athletes, opponents, spirit squads, spectators and the media. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes inappropriate behavior in language, gesture or action that demeans, physically intimidates or endangers others.
- 2. Protect your health.** In addition to fulfilling the training requirements of your sport, you must take special care to avoid the use of non-therapeutic drugs and the consumption of alcohol, which can be harmful to you and others. Do not take drugs that have not been prescribed for you by a physician.
- 3. Obey team rules and policies.** Your coaches have established rules and policies for guiding your success. You are expected to follow their guidance and develop the ability to work well with others on your team.

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Responsibilities As A Community Member

Your responsibility as a community member is to respect and obey the policies, rules and laws of the community.

Like all students in Cincinnati Public Schools, you are a member of the Cincinnati community. This community expects its members to exhibit respectful and lawful behavior. You have no special rights or privileges that exempt you from penalty.

- ★ If you violate policies, rules and laws, you will be held accountable for your actions.

To carry out your responsibility as a member of this community, you must:

- ★ Obey all federal, state and city laws. Any student in Cincinnati Public Schools who violates the law may incur penalties imposed by civil authorities.
- ★ Remember that as a student athlete, you are visible within the community. You should make a conscious effort to avoid “being in the wrong place at the wrong time.” Use good judgment at all times.

Enforcement Of Code Of Conduct

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Like all students, athletes are expected to obey CPS' Code of Conduct and Positive School Culture Plan. You are subject to consequences, including the possibility of being removed from the team or activity, for failure to do so.

Various CPS officials will enforce the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, including coaches, school administrators and other authorities of Cincinnati Public Schools.

Keys to Success for Student Athletes

- **Take pride in what you do** — Finish each job you start, and do it well.
- **Take setbacks in stride** — Learn from mistakes and always try to improve.
- **Set new goals** — You don't know what you can do until you try.
- **Work hard** — Talent alone never is enough. Only in the dictionary will you find "success" before "work."
- **Be committed** — Make a total commitment to achieve goals.
- **Be consistent** — Set a regular schedule and stick with it.
- **Always give 110%** — Do more than what is expected.
- **Be prepared** — To get ahead, plan ahead.
- **Be enthusiastic** — Be positive, enjoy what you do, and do it well.
- **Be confident** — To succeed, believe that you can.

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