

ARUNDEL HIGH SCHOOL'S ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

“Win with grace. Lose with modesty but demonstrate PRIDE at all times.”

Our Vision:

- *Arundel High School's athletic program aspires to be exceptional by instilling in our student athletes outstanding character, self-discipline, and a commitment to growth in all facets of their lives.*

Our Mission:

- *To build an athletic program that develops character by promoting high expectations of self, positive attitude, discipline, good sportsmanship, integrity, leadership, and social responsibility.*
- *To provide student-athletes an environment that promotes and supports academic achievement*
- *To establish athletic teams that performs at a competitive level in competition.*
- *To recruit and retain highly qualified coaches and support staff.*
- *To prepare student-athletes to make transitions to the next level of participation academically and athletically.*

Introduction:

- Adherence to the policies set forth by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA), Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), and the Arundel High School (AHS) Athletic Code of Conduct is required for the student athlete's participation, the success of the team, program, and school. Athletic participation is a privilege, not a right. It is imperative to note all policies are not confined to the school day or school functions, but reflects an expectation and commitment to an everyday lifestyle *throughout* the school year.

Student Athlete Behavioral Expectations:

- Student athletes are to demonstrate **WILDCAT PRIDE** on and off school property at all times.
- Student athletes will adhere the AACPS Code of Conduct at all times. Students who are found in violation of the AACPS Code of Conduct may be issued consequences by the Head Coach.
- Student athletes are expected to demonstrate good conduct at all times. As a result of misconduct or disruptive behavior, the Head Coach, in consultation with administration, shall be responsible for deciding appropriate discipline.
- Students athletes are expected to demonstrate respect for others (any student, teacher, staff, and all community stakeholders of AACPS) and teammates at all times. Disrespectful comments and behaviors to others and teammates will not be tolerated. As a result of disrespectful behavior, the principal or designee shall be responsible for deciding appropriate discipline.
- Hazing, Bullying, and/or Bias Behavior, as defined by the AACPS Athletic Handbook (pg. 43), will not be tolerated and can result in immediate dismissal from the team.
- Student athletes are not to use alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco products. Athletes who are found in possession or having consumed alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco products will be issued consequences according AACPS Athletic Handbook and/or the AACPS Code of Conduct.
- Student athletes are responsible for all equipment and uniforms issued. Student athletes will be charged full replacement cost for any equipment/uniform that is lost, damaged, or stolen. Arundel High School is not liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged personal property.
- Social Media: AACPS supports student athletes' use of social media in ways that have a positive impact on the athletic program

or school climate. Student misuse of social media, whether on or off school grounds that creates a hostile, disruptive or unsafe school climate or brings negative attention to the athletic program, is unacceptable. Therefore, it is the practice of AACPS to monitor social media activity and utilize the information for the safety and security of all students and staff. Misuse of social media will result in appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with Board of Education (BOE) regulations (JCCC-RAA) (AACPS Athletic Handbook, pg. 52).

- The Head Coach, with input from the Assistant Coaches, may dismiss players from the team for actions or behavior deemed detrimental to the student athlete, team and/or overall good of the program.
- If student athlete is dismissed from a team (or quits) anytime during a season, all team fees paid by student athlete and his/her parent are non-refundable.
- Any conduct deemed detrimental to the student athlete, team and/or overall good of the school system, anytime, on and off campus, can result in penalties ranging from verbal reprimand to removal from the team as determined by the head coach.

Note: MPSSAA, AACPS and AHS Athletic Code of Conduct policies apply on and off school campus at all times.

Residency:

- The student athlete must reside with his/her parents or legal guardian in a permanent address in the Arundel High School district. Failure to abide by this regulation could result in the team forfeiting games and the athlete being suspended up to 60 school days (AACPS Athletic Handbook, pg. 45-46).
- In the event the residency changes during the sports season, the athlete and parent must notify the Athletic Director immediately of this address change and it must comply with the AACPS guidelines for residency (AACPS Athletic Handbook pg. 45-46).

Academic Eligibility

- Students must be eligible in order to be a part of the team.
- Students are responsible for knowing their personal eligibility status, as indicated on their report cards, and attending all required study hall sessions in accordance with AACPS policies.
- To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, grades 9 through 12, a student must maintain a “C” average (2.0 GPA) or better as determined by existing county grading procedures in all courses taken in an eligibility period. A student may earn a maximum of one “E” grade in courses taken during that eligibility period. Academic eligibility periods are determined by the date of issuance or report cards reflecting grades earned during each marking period.
- Student athletes that are unable to meet academic standards, at the issuance of report cards, will be placed on academic probation for 16 school days. While on probation, the athlete may practice providing he/she earns 2 hours of tutoring each week. Failure to meet the academic standards at the end of the probation period will result in the athlete being removal from the team for the remainder of the sports season.
- On the 16th school day the athletic advisor (Ms. Towns), in consultation with the principal or principal’s designee may establish an exact time deadline for the final grade check. It is expected that this deadline is established and announced well in advance. In extenuating circumstances, the principal or principal’s designee may authorize exceptions to this deadline.

Pre-Participation Information - Required Registration Agreements: All agreements are consented to upon completion of registration on Arundel High School’s Athletic program on www.familyid.com.

1. Pre-participation Physical Evaluation: *Must be uploaded to the personal registration on “Family ID”*

- A student shall be examined and certified to the high school principal as being physically fit to participate in any try-out, practice or contest of a school team. The examination shall be performed by a qualified physician, according to MPSSAA guidelines. Verification of the examination must be submitted each school year of participation. Verification must be dated after June 1st for the subsequent year of participation.

2. Guide for Parents and Student Athletes

- The Guide for Student Athletes serves to inform prospective student athletes and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of rules and requirements for participating in interscholastic athletics. Every prospective student athlete and his or her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) must provide parental permission, residency and medical insurance information, and an acknowledgement that they

have received concussion awareness information. Medical coverage may be provided through the purchase of scholastic accident insurance, or by providing proof of similar or superior insurance protection.

3. Concussion Awareness Form

- Every prospective student athlete and his or her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) must read, the AACPS concussion information sheet which will provide awareness on:
 - ✓ The nature and risk of a concussion or head injury
 - ✓ The criteria for removal from and return to play
 - ✓ The risks of not reporting injury and continuing to play
 - ✓ Appropriate academic accommodations for students diagnosed as having sustained a head injury

4. Concussion History Form

- Each prospective player must complete (detailing their most up to date concussion history) this form and turn into the coach each season.

5. Student Health Plan

- It is the responsibility of the student athletes and/or their parent or guardians to provide an updated health plan to the coaching staff. It is also their responsibility to report any changes in physical or mental health that occurs during the season.

Team Selection:

- Participation in athletics is a **privilege**, not a right. The Head Coach will select the student athletes of the team with input from the Assistant Coaches during the tryout process. The overall selection of the team will also reflect the best interests of the continuing sports program at Arundel High School. The Head Coach has final decision.
- *Criteria for the selection of any team may include but is not limited to:*
 - ✓ Agility
 - ✓ Quickness and speed
 - ✓ Strength and endurance
 - ✓ Technical skills related to specific sport
 - ✓ Coachability
 - ✓ Attitude
 - ✓ Character

Note: Each head coach will decide the specific criteria used for team selection. Each head coach will use a rubric for tryouts. The criteria and scoring rubric will be reviewed with all student athletes prior to trying out for the any team.

Selection of Team Captains:

- Captains will be selected for the team by the Head Coach, with input from the Assistant Coaches and/or team members.
- *Attributes for Selection of Team Captains may include but are not limited to:*
 - ✓ Good character
 - ✓ Leadership ability
 - ✓ Respect of teammates and coaches
 - ✓ Team pride and spirit

Playing Time:

- The opportunity to represent Arundel High School in athletic competition is earned. All decisions concerning playing time and starting positions are at the sole discretion of the coaching staff. If there is a question regarding playing time, the **player** should speak with the **coach**.

Attendance Regulations:

- Truancy/class cutting
 - ✓ 1st Offense - One (1) game suspension
 - ✓ 2nd Offense - Removal for the remainder of the season
 - ✓ On the day of a game or practice, each student athlete is required to attend all scheduled classes.
 - ✓ Athlete must have approval of the Principal or Principal's designee to practice or play in a game if the athlete must miss any

portion of the school day for a doctor/dentist appointment. Doctor's note required to verify absence. In the case of other circumstances, the Principal or Principal's Designee will determine an exception due to extenuating circumstances and will have final approval or denial.

Practice and Game Expectations:

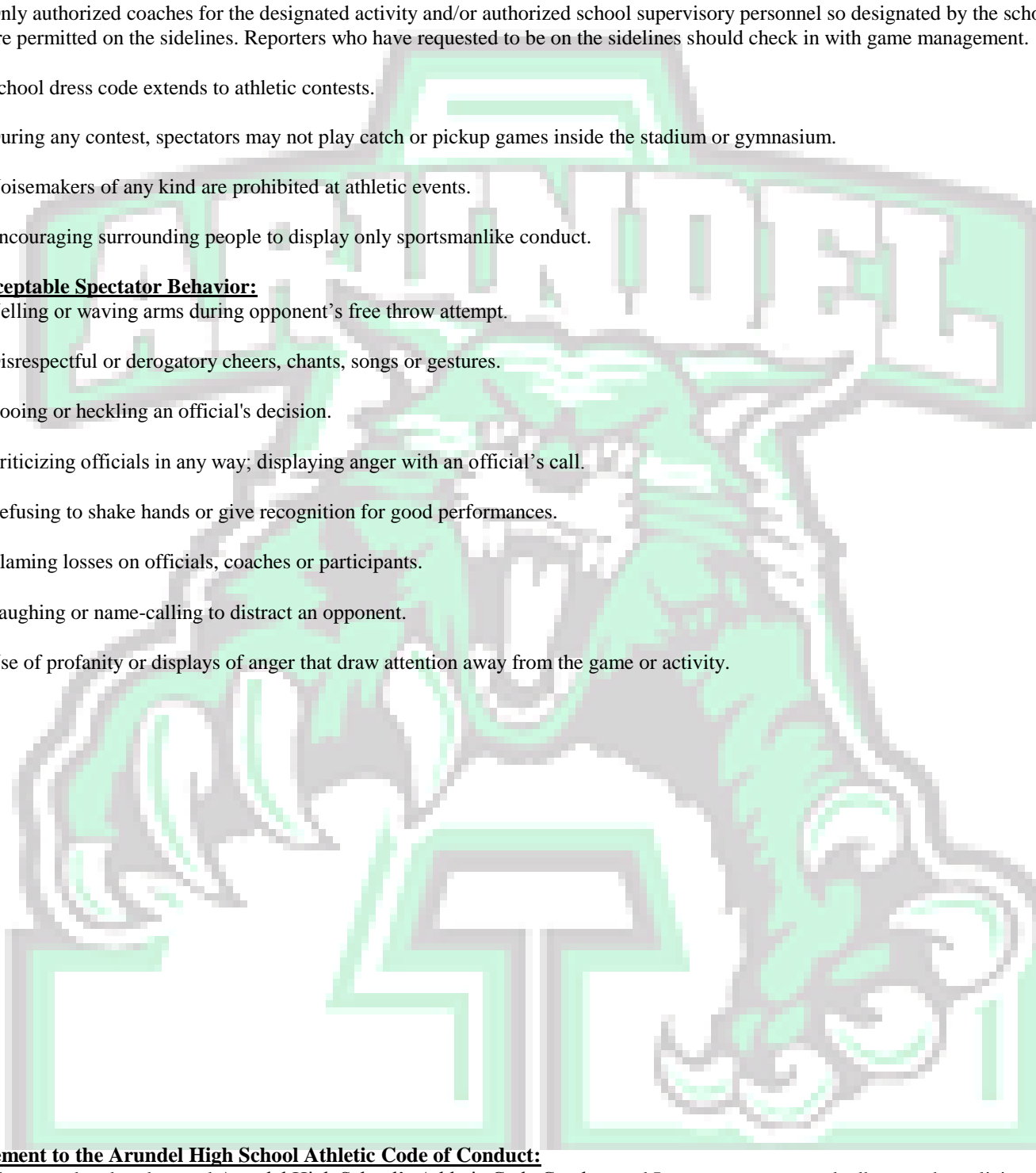
- Report to all team events at or before the designated time set forth by the specific head coach.
- Give best effort in all team activities.
- Encourage your teammates to do their best.
- Be dressed in proper attire as designated by the head coach of each specific team.
- Be prepared with all of your equipment at the start of each school day and practice.
 - ✓ Specifically, dropping off extra-curricular items for activities such as sports during the school day is NOT permitted. We will not stop instructional class time to interrupt the teacher and class to deliver or call students out of class for such extra-curricular items. We also do not have an adequate or secure storage area in the Main Office to hold such items during the school day. Instead, parents may meet their child at 2:05 p.m., at the end of the school day, to personally deliver such items to them.
- Exhibit good sportsmanship at all times. Show respect to officials, spectators, coaching staff and opponents.
 - ✓ *"Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities that are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all athletic disciplines."*
- Report injuries to the head coach and/or trainer.
- If you must see a doctor for an injury, the doctor must clearly provide written clearance on order to resume play. The doctor's note must be on file with the Head Coach and the Athletic Trainer.
- In the event an athlete must miss a practice, the athlete and/or parents are to contact the coach prior to the absence to discuss the reason for missing practice.
- Accept constructive criticism from the coaching staff.
- Strive for excellence!

Game Day Expectations:

- All student athletes must ride the team bus to and from all athletic contests. If the athlete cannot ride the bus to the game or back to school, the athlete must have permission from their coach. The athlete needs a "Driver Permission/Student Self-Transportation Form." It has to be completed by the player and driver and the coach must sign the form. Once the player has completed the form and had the coach sign the form, the athlete needs to obtain permission by the Principal or Principal's designee prior to the athletic event.
- Team dress code will be enforced in school on game days, as determined by the Head Coach.
- The student athlete is expected to follow all rules of the National Federation of High School Sports Association which pertain to their specific sport.

Expectations of Spectators:

- Spectators are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of sportsmanship and **WILDCAT PRIDE** at all times.
- Booing, taunting, inappropriate cheers, or attempts to intimidate athletes, coaching staffs, event personnel, administrators, officials and opponents are unacceptable behaviors. Spectators should support and cheer for their teams in a positive manner.
- Spectators who exhibit unacceptable behavior will be asked to leave the contest without reimbursement of game fees and will not be permitted to re-enter that contest. Further disciplinary action may be imposed in accordance with AACPS policy.
- Spectators will not be permitted to leave and reenter any contest without paying a second admission fee.

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- Spectators must comply with the AACPS alcohol, drug, and tobacco policies.
 - Spectators may not take food or drinks into the gymnasium.
 - Spectators must stay in the bleachers or stands. For spectator safety, there is no jumping on the bleachers or stands.
 - Only authorized coaches for the designated activity and/or authorized school supervisory personnel so designated by the school are permitted on the sidelines. Reporters who have requested to be on the sidelines should check in with game management.
 - School dress code extends to athletic contests.
 - During any contest, spectators may not play catch or pickup games inside the stadium or gymnasium.
 - Noisemakers of any kind are prohibited at athletic events.
 - Encouraging surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Spectator Behavior:

- Yelling or waving arms during opponent's free throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory cheers, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displaying anger with an official's call.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming losses on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game or activity.

Agreement to the Arundel High School Athletic Code of Conduct:

- I have read and understand Arundel High School's Athletic Code of Conduct and I agree to support and adhere to the policies set forth by MPSSAA, AACPS, and AHS Athletic Code of Conduct, on and off campus, at all times during the school year.
- Furthermore, failure to comply with this agreement may result in disciplinary action to include suspension or dismissal from any team at Arundel High School.

- It is encouraged after signing this agreement that the student athlete and parent/guardian keep a copy for their personal records.
- AHS Athletics' Code of Conduct is posted on school website at www.arundelathletics.com.
- MPSSAA and AACPS Guidelines and Handbooks are posted on www.aacps.org for your reference.

Print Student Athlete's First and Last Name: _____

Student Athlete's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

