

## **Parent Contract for Dade Middle School Athletics**

We are excited to have your child participate in DMS athletics! DMS coaches love working with kids and realize the positive benefit of participation in athletics. We want your child to have a positive experience. Parents are always the backbone of any school athletic program, and we appreciate the support you provide. In order for your child to participate in DMS athletics, we need your commitment for the following.

### **Help your child keep athletics in perspective**

- Emphasize our priorities: Family, Academics, and Athletics.
- Value participation and best effort above winning/ losing. (Part of growing champions is working toward best effort. Championships come through hard work and best effort; these are our primary focus.)
- You as a DMS parent represent the school, the staff, and alumni. Be involved, be vocal, but remain positive.

### **Support your athlete**

- Talk to your child about how things are going with his/her sport.
- Attend as many of your child's games as possible.
- Stress the importance of a healthy lifestyle free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.
- Do not support "quitting" as the best way to solve problems, but rather perseverance, and how to deal with adversity.

### **Support DMS Athletics**

- Respect the professional judgment of the coaching staff. They are here to help your child grow as an athlete and as a person. They do their very best to make sound decisions that are in the best interest of the team.
- Understand the time commitment and needs of the particular sports as many of them involve significant commitments of time and resources.
- Help in fundraising efforts and work events that benefit DMS Athletics.

### **Display good sportsmanship**

The North Georgia Athletic Conference and its member schools are committed to good sportsmanship. Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship here at DMS. Let's represent our community well.

- Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials or competitors will not be tolerated, and are grounds for removal from the event site.
- Spectators are not allowed to enter the competition area during warm-ups or while the contest is being conducted.
- Parents should never try to talk to a coach before or after a contest on a game day. This is the most emotional time for all parties involved and is not the time for a meeting about specific issues with your student-athlete. Respect the coaches and their need to be focused on the task at hand.

### **Communicate appropriately with coaches**

Understand that coaches may discuss

- A child's progress and ways to improve
- Concerns regarding student behavior
- The philosophy of the coach
- The expectations of coaches and role for their child on the team
- Team rules and policies
- Disciplinary action incurred by their child
- Ways in which you can help the team (team parent, concessions, etc.)

Respect that coaches do not discuss

- Placement on teams
- Playing time
- Coaching strategies used during practice or contests
- Other student-athletes

### **Conflict Resolution Process**

If a problem should arise, adhere to these steps

- Student-athlete contacts the coach to schedule an appointment to discuss the issue.
- If a resolution is not reached, the student-athlete should contact an athletic director to discuss the issue.
- If a resolution is not reached, the parent should contact the coach and arrange for a meeting.
- In the rare instance that there is still no resolution, the parent should contact an athletic director and arrange for a meeting.

By signing below, you agreed to abide by this Parent Contract.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_