



CODE OF CONDUCT

Hillsborough County Public School's (HCPS) athletes and coaches adhere to all of the principles of good sportsmanship, citizenship and behavior.

Note: By Signing the Code of Conduct the student-athletes/parents/guardians agree to adhere to the stipulations and sanctions outlined below.

- Student-athletes and parents/guardians accept that the Head Coach/Assistant Principal has access to weekly grade reports and will monitor student achievement throughout the course of the season/school year. Student-athletes must meet state and district academic eligibility requirements (2.0 overall state grade point average) and a weekly conduct report.
- Student-athletes are committing to all practices and contests. Student-athletes who fail to practice routinely or who routinely miss practice will not be allowed to compete. Student-athletes must communicate well in advance of any conflicts. **Playing time is earned at the discretion of the coach.**
- Multi-Sport athletes will be handled on an individual case basis. Student-athletes will be expected to attend all practices unless cleared by the head coaches.
- Impromptu conferences with coaches are forbidden. HCPS will follow a mandatory 24 hour cooling off period before any parent conferences unless the concern is about health and safety.
- The chain of communication is as follows:
 1. Player meeting with Head Coach;
 2. Player and parent meeting with Head Coach (not at practices or contests);
 3. Player and parent meeting with Head Coach and Assistant Principal (not at practices or contests);
 4. Player and parent meeting with Assistant Principal (not at practices or contests).
- Negativity and Poor Sportsmanship: All staff, players, and spectators will avoid harsh criticism, extreme negativity, and displays of poor sportsmanship.
- Respect for Facilities: No food or drink is allowed in any facility except for water or other forms of hydration. Staff, players, and spectators will clean up after themselves. Teams will participate in routine upkeep of facilities being used.
- HCPS will not tolerate disrespectful comments and/or behavior in person or online including social media at any time during the school year. Student-athletes will be subject to dismissal from the team. Parent/guardians will be subject to removal from contests and/or revoking attendance at future contests.



CODE OF CONDUCT (continued)

- Student-athletes and parents/guardians are NOT to engage in commentary or content that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward another individual or entity. Examples include but are not limited to:
 1. Derogatory comments regarding another individual.
 2. Taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach, official or team from another school.
 3. Derogatory comments regarding someone's race, gender and sex.
- No photos, videos, posts or comments should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent, or illegal activities (for example, hazing, sexual harassment/assault, nudity, inappropriate gestures, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking and/or illegal drug use).
- Student-athletes and parents/guardians acknowledge that conduct (in and out of school plus online communication) is a reflection of their team and school. Student-athletes – under any circumstances – are not to participate in cheating, stealing, bullying, hazing, or any activity – intentional or otherwise – that ridicules or embarrasses a teammate, classmate or the school. Severe sanctions, including dismissal, could be applied.
- Student-athletes and parents/guardians will abide by the principles of respect, responsibility and building relationships at all times. As a result, they will express an appreciation for the volunteer work put in by coaches, teachers, administrative staff and other dedicated parents, and they should treat each with respect.
- Game and practice schedules are subject to change. Every effort will be made to communicate these changes. Student-athletes must regularly check for communication from their coaching staff. Student-athletes and parents/guardians must communicate issues that may arise when game and practice schedules are altered.