



St Cyprian's School

SPORT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Sports Code of Conduct lays down expectations relating to players, coaches and parents/spectators:

A. PLAYERS

The expectations of players are to:

- Show good sportsmanship at all times.
- Respect opponents, umpires and fellow team-mates, regardless of results or negative decisions.
- Attend all practices and matches – players may only be excused by means of letters from parents, for valid reasons.
- Show loyalty and support for one's team by arriving and leaving with the team. Players are expected to remain at fixtures until the end of the event, even if their personal participation in these events is over.
- Assist coaches with putting away equipment that may have been used for practices/matches.
- Take care of all school equipment that they use, i.e. balls, bibs, goalkeeper's kit, whether at a practice session or at a match.
- Wear the correct uniform to practices and matches.
- Show commitment. Once a learner has signed up for a sport, she will be expected to complete the full season in that sport. Quitting a sport after a few sessions is totally unacceptable.
- Check sports notice boards daily to ensure they take note of all information regarding practices and matches.

B. TEAM CAPTAINS

With own team the expectations are that captains:

- Lead by example in terms of their own focus and attitude during training sessions and matches, their behaviour on and off the field, their personal levels of fitness, their wearing of the correct uniform, their helping the coach.
- Take the lead on and off the field – warming up their teams, playing at their best levels, thanking umpires and opposition after matches, etc.
- Motivate their teams to do well and achieve their individual and collective goals.
- Ensure their teams thank the umpires/referees and opposition directly after matches.

With opposing teams, the expectations are that captains:

- Greet their opponents before and after the game (home and away games).
- Welcome their opponents when the game is at home, show them where the change rooms are, where they can warm up, and where their match will be played
- Ensure their opponents and their coaches receive refreshments after home games.

C. COACHES / SPORTS STAFF

The expectations of staff and coaches are that they:

- Set a good example to their players by being neatly turned out, professional, punctual and prepared at all times (i.e. having a training schedule for each training session.)
- Respect the umpires'/referees calls and decisions gracefully.
- Teach their players to respect their opposition and all officials.
- Teach their players good sportsmanship.
- Remember that the learners deserve equal attention and learning opportunities.
- Structure practices in such a way that skills (team and individual) development is included, and that all players are busy at all times.
- Keep their own knowledge of the sport up to date – coaching skills, rules of the game, etc.
- Make sure team selections are transparent and fair to all players.
- Assess players and their ability levels at least once a term.
- Make sure all players are well-prepared for matches, e.g. that they know their positions, know the rules, wear the correct uniform, etc.
- Take responsibility for any equipment used by their teams – ensure all equipment is picked up from the field and stored away neatly.
- Keep record of their team's register, results and progress, to hand in at the end of the season.
- Keep enthusiasm and motivation at the core of all their interaction with their players.

D. PARENTS / GUARDIANS / SPECTATORS

Parents are respectfully expected to:

- Understand that school sport is not about “winning at all cost” and that there is great value in terms of the values it instils and the opportunities it provides for social interaction, fun and competition.
- Encourage, motivate and expect their children to participate in sport by supporting the school view that physical activity is crucial to physical and mental development as well as to psychological well being..
- Encourage from the side of the field if they so wish, but NOT be critical, abusive or threatening to their own children, other players, coaches or umpires.
- Understand the importance of teamwork and support, and make arrangements, where possible, that will allow players to remain with their teams until the end of the match / prize giving.
- Ensure that their children own and wear the correct sporting uniform to practices and matches.
- Take up the invitation to come and support their children at practices and matches, should this be possible and feasible. Parental interest is a great motivating factor to players.
- Sign up for a connection to the school's SMS system, so that all information, e.g. changes to times, can be communicated to them regularly and efficiently.