

## **St. Alphonsus School Inter-School Sport Policy**

As part of the physical education program at St. Alphonsus School, students have the opportunity to participate in inter-school sports through the Manitoba Catholic Schools Athletic Association (MCSAA). The sports offered include volleyball, basketball, badminton and track and field. The MCSAA offers two levels of league play for team sports: Developmental and Competitive. If numbers warrant and if coaches are available, the school will offer programs at both levels.

The primary goals of the inter-school sport program are to develop teamwork and cooperation, while promoting a physically active lifestyle. By its nature, sport is competitive; learning to balance competition and sportspersonship is an important aspect of the program.

It is our belief at St. Alphonsus School that all students in the middle years are developing their skills and should have the freedom to explore a variety of different sport and extracurricular activities. Therefore, any student who wants to play, and who adheres to the Sport Code of Conduct (attached), will be encouraged to play. That being said, it is important to balance sports involvement with other curricular and extra-curricular responsibilities.

In order to uphold our beliefs about sport, the following guidelines have been developed for coaches, staff supervisors, parents and athletes.

### ***General***

Staff supervision is required at all practices, games and tournaments. When a staff member is coaching, no additional supervision is required. If a parent or other volunteer is coaching, a supervision schedule will be drawn up to provide coverage for these events. It is the staff member's responsibility to ensure that students are behaving in accordance with the sport code of conduct and to report any concerns to the school administration. Staff supervisors are responsible for ensuring that athletes are picked up by a parent or other designated person at the end of practices and games, both at the school and at other venues.

### ***Coaches***

Our teams are coached either by staff members or volunteers from the community. We welcome parent coaches, as they have allowed us to offer a wider range of activities for the students. Volunteer coaches are expected to adhere to the Sport Code of Conduct (attached) and to complete the *Respect In Sport* online training.

### ***Team Selection***

If there are both developmental and competitive teams for a particular sport, a period of tryouts will be conducted. Athletes will have a minimum of four practices before teams are decided upon. Selection of team members must be done in consultation with the Phys. Ed. Teacher or a designated staff member.

## ***Uniforms***

Uniforms will be provided by or purchased through the school, and will consist of a Hurricanes jersey and gym uniform shorts. Any proposed changes or additional items will be reviewed by the sport council prior to implementation.

## ***Practices***

Practices can occur directly before or after school. Morning practices can begin no earlier than 7:15 AM and should run through until 8:30 AM. Afternoon practices begin at 3:00 PM and may run until 5:00 PM. Scheduling of practices must be done in consultation with the Physical Education Teacher. Gym time will be shared as fairly as possible. Practices outside of these parameters require approval of the school administration.

At the developmental level, teams may practice a maximum of three times per week in the pre-season. Once the season is underway teams may practice and play a total of three times per week (I.E. one game and two practice sessions or three practices), with the exception of tournaments, depending on gym availability.

At the competitive level, teams may practice a maximum of four times per week in the pre-season. Once the season is underway teams may practice and play a total of four times per week (I.E. two games and two practice sessions or one game and three practices), with the exception of tournaments and league playoffs, depending on gym availability.

## ***Court Time***

At the developmental level, athletes will have equal playing time. If this is not possible to balance in a particular game it will be corrected in the next game.

At the competitive level, MCSAA rules for playing time will be followed. Coaches should endeavour to ensure equal playing time over the course of the season.

## ***Transportation***

Transportation of athletes to games and tournaments that take place off the school site is the responsibility of parents. Parents who are unable to transport their child should attempt to arrange for a ride with another player's parent/guardian. Staff and parent coaches may provide a ride for a team member in the event that there are no other viable options and that they have the consent of the child's parents. The school carries additional insurance through MPIC that covers individuals using their personal vehicle to provide transportation to students for a school sponsored event.

## St. Alphonsus School Sport Code of Conduct



Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

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

As a **player/participant**, I understand that I must follow these rules to stay in good standing:

1. Respect the game/activity, play fairly and follow its rules and regulations.
2. To be punctual and prepared for all practices and games.
3. Show respect for the officials' authority and abide by their decisions.
4. Demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during and after games.
5. Help parents and fans understand the school's philosophy so they can watch and enjoy the game.
6. Be courteous to opposing teams and treat all players and coaches with respect.
7. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat.
8. Respect the property of our school and other school facilities.
9. Represent St. Alphonsus School at all times in a positive way.
10. Refrain from the use of abusive language.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For student athletes, failure to follow the sport code of conduct may result in consequences ranging from verbal warnings to removal of the privilege to participate in the sport or activity.

As a **parent/guardian**, I recognize that parents/guardians are the most important role models for their children, and that sports help to develop a sense of teamwork, self-worth and sportsmanship. As such, I agree to abide by the following:

1. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans and officials at games, practices and other sporting events.
2. Show respect for the officials' authority and abide by their decisions.
3. Place the well being of my child and the other children playing ahead of any personal desire to win.
4. Bring any issues to the attention of the staff supervisor and/or the school administration.
5. Encourage my child to play by the rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, fans and officials.
6. Assist my child(ren) in achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyle by promoting a balance among academic, athletic, spiritual, and personal goals.
7. Be courteous to opposing teams and treat all players and coaches with respect.
8. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat.
9. Represent St. Alphonsus School at all times in a positive way.
10. Refrain from the use of abusive language

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For parents and other spectators, failure to follow the sport code of conduct may result in consequences ranging from verbal warnings to ejection from the facility. Continued incidents will require a meeting with administration and may result in the parent or spectator being barred from attending sporting events.