



St. Francis of Assisi Middle School

Dear Parents,

A wide variety of extracurricular activities are offered to students at St. Francis of Assisi Middle School in order to meet the needs and interests of the students. Taking part in any extracurricular activity is a privilege therefore, parents and students must do their best to represent St. Francis of Assisi Middle School in a positive manner. In order to ensure adequate communication, this letter is specifically designed to convey to parents the requirements needed in order for their child/ren to participate in extracurricular activities at St. Francis of Assisi Middle School.

The Parent Contract:

1. I will remember that my child plays sport for his or her enjoyment, not for mine.
2. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or disrespect.
3. I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game/event.
4. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or another child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
5. I will remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud good players' performances by both my child's team and their opponents.
6. I will never question the official's judgement or honesty in public.
7. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
8. I will respect and show appreciation for the trained volunteer coaches who give their time to provide sport activities for my child, understanding that I have a responsibility to be a part of my child's development.
9. I will respect and show appreciation for the other parents who share these beliefs.
10. I will teach my child(ren) to play fairly and to respect the rules, the officials, their opponents, their teammates and their coaches.
11. I understand that school athletics is to develop the whole child, not just their athletic ability, and will support the school in promoting this.

Student Athlete Behaviour:

Student athletes are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior at school and at any extracurricular function/event. Student athletes may be removed/suspended from a team by the coach or school administrator for the following reasons: poor grades, excessive behaviour concerns in class, gross misconduct (School suspensions are grounds for immediate removal from the team), poor use of social media and/or representing St. Francis of Assisi in a negative manner. These circumstances will be assessed on an individual student basis.

Playing Time:

Playing time at the Grade 9 or senior level is at the discretion of the coach and is based on the effort, player attitude/performance in practice/games and overall team dynamics. Decisions made regarding playing time by the coach are not up for discussion and players are asked to accept these decisions with an open mind. At the junior level playing time is equal for the duration of the season with the only exception being the final tournament if necessary. If a player feels very strongly that they are unhappy with their playing situation or wish to discuss their individual performance, they are asked to take 24 hours to fully evaluate the scenario and then set up an appointment with the coach at a time outside of practices or games. If parents have an issue with playing time, they are to talk with their child first, as the child may have a different understanding of the situation. The coach will strive to give all players as much opportunity for court time as possible when appropriate, but patience and understanding must be given.

Parent/Player Concerns:

Parents are not to approach or contact a coach, before, during, or after a game to discuss playing time or other concerns. Parents are to schedule an appointment with, email or call the athletic director so that adequate attention can be given to the matter at hand. Before a parent contacts the athletic director, we ask that they take 24 hours to fully evaluate the scenario. The athletic director will then determine if the concern needs to be addressed by the coach or by the administration team.

- The athletic director for the Senior teams is Mr. Richard (joel.richard@rdcrs.ca)

Sportsmanship:

Parents, as well as students, should always display appropriate sportsmanship during all games. Questioning the coach's decisions and or yelling at the referees are displays of poor sportsmanship and disrespect. Parents should serve as positive role models at school functions and should remain orderly.

Please know that failure to observe the terms outlined above may result in disciplinary action such as...

- A meeting with the St. Francis of Assisi administration team.
- Suspension from participating in all athletic events including attending home and away games.
- Possible removal of the player from the team.

Coaches:

It is expected that our St. Francis of Assisi coaches...

- Treat all student athletes, coaches, parents and officials with dignity and respect at all times.
- Help student athletes build character, good sportsmanship, and improve their skills through positive reinforcement and constructive feedback.
- Model the "team concept", fostering collaboration and cooperation amongst student athletes.
- Demonstrate clear communication and expectations with all student athletes on the team.
- When discipline is necessary, it is done without humiliation or embarrassment to the student athlete.

Yours In Christ,

Gary Gylander
Principal