

**ST. MATTHEW Middle School**  
**Code of Conduct for Athletes, Parents and Coaches**

Any member of the St. Matthew School sports teams will abide by the following:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others.
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
- Make a commitment to providing quality service and performance.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- Operate within the Constitution, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of St. Matthew School, Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, CWAJHAA, Leagues and Tournaments.
- Refrain from any forms of abuse towards others.
- Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
- Refrain from any form of discrimination of others.
- Refrain from any form of victimization of others.
- Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity in accordance with relevant policy.
- Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
- Be a positive role model.

STM expects all members, supporters, advisors, staff and associates of STM to abide by a Code of Conduct that upholds the principles and values of the school. Members should recognize that at all times they have a duty of care to all STM members.

**In addition a**

**Coach will:**

Agree to abide by the code of conduct. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every individual athlete as a human being.

- Treat everyone equally regardless of gender, disability, ethnic origin or religion.
- Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each athlete in order to help each athlete reach their full potential.

Maintain high standards of integrity.

- Operate within the rules of your sport and the spirit of fair play, while encouraging your athletes to do the same.
- Advocate a sporting environment free of drugs and other performance enhancing substances.
- Do not disclose any confidential information relating to their athletes without written prior consent.

Be a positive role model for your sport and athletes and act in a way that projects a positive image of coaching.

- All athletes are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Ensure all athletes time spent with you is a positive experience
- Be fair, considerate and honest with athletes
- Encourage and promote a healthy lifestyle - refrain from smoking and drinking alcohol around athletes.

Professional Responsibilities

- Support the academic standards established at STM.

- Display high standards in your language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation.
- Display control, courtesy, respect, honesty, dignity and professionalism to all involved within the sphere of sport - this includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators.
- Encourage your athletes to demonstrate the same qualities.
- Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions.
- Accurately represent personal coaching qualifications, experience, competence and affiliations.
- Refrain from criticism of other coaches.

Make a commitment to providing a quality service to your athletes.

- Seek continual improvement through ongoing coach education, and other personal and professional development opportunities.
- Provide athletes with planned and structured training programs appropriate to their needs and goals.
- Seek advice and assistance from professionals when additional expertise is needed.
- Maintain appropriate records.

Provide a safe environment for training and competition

- Adopt appropriate risk management strategies to ensure that the training and/or competition environment is safe.
- Ensure equipment and facilities meet safety standards.
- Ensure equipment, rules, training and the environment are appropriate for the age, physical and emotional maturity, experience and ability of the athletes.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured athletes
- Allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.
- Encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required.
- Provide a modified training program when appropriate.

Protect your athletes from any form of personal abuse.

- Refrain from any form of verbal, physical and emotional abuse toward your athletes.
- Refrain from any form of sexual and racial harassment, racial vilification and harassment on the ground of disability.
- Any physical contact with athletes should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the athlete's skill development.
- Be alert to any forms of abuse directed toward athletes from other sources while in their care.

**Athletes will:**

- Agree to abide by the code of conduct.
- Never argue or verbally abuse an official. Always use the appropriate rules and guidelines to resolve a dispute.
- Conduct yourself in a sportsman-like manner and respect for fellow athletes, coaches, managers, staff, officials, and the achievement of opponents.
- Do not bully or take an unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, manager, teammates and opponents.
- Refrain from possessing or consuming prohibited substances.
- Comply with training, competition, curfew and behavior requirements.
- Comply with all academic and behavior standards as set out by STM.

**Parent and Guardians will:**

- Agree to abide by the code of conduct.
- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children to always complete according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake losing a competition.
- Remember that children learn best by example.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Respect official's decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators.

Any breach of the Code of Conduct, or any part of it, may result in disciplinary action. We understand that these rules are important in helping the student become a good athlete and a good citizen with a high sense of moral integrity, competitive spirit, and the ability to be honest and forthright in all endeavors.