

St. John Fisher Athletic Board's Statement of Expectations

- The coach has the greatest responsibility as well as the greatest opportunity to guide and influence the student athletics. Coaches assume the role of teacher, mentor, and minister to the young people in their charge. A coach's attitude and behavior are critical to modeling good Christian sportsmanship both in words and in deed. The careful selection of coaches is vital if the athletic program is to reflect the Mission/Philosophy of the school sports program.
- Coaches have the responsibility for the safety of the athletes. Caution athletes to stay in a designated area and not wander. Coaches must not leave athletes unattended during practice sessions and/or contests. Insure all athletes are picked up after practices and/or contests.
- The coaches should be familiar with, adhere to, and support the local athletic Mission Statement and Philosophy and all local policies and guidelines as well as league policies and guidelines. Coaches should attend an informal meeting(s) prior to assuming coaching responsibilities to be inserviced on these.
- Coaches are to conduct a Parent Night Meeting prior to the first contest.
- Coaches should be knowledgeable of the rules of the sport and techniques for teaching the fundamentals of the sport. They should use tactics and strategies that are appropriate for the age and skill levels of their athletes.
- Coaches should model Christian sportsmanship knowing that the school is judged more by the coach's sportsmanship than by his record. The coach should teach and guide the team members with a sense of fair play and model winning and losing in a respectful, courteous, and gracious Christian manner.
- Coaches should show respect for game officials and opponents; publicly shaking hands with the officials and the opposing coach before and after a game gives clear witness to this respect.
- Coaches should refrain from public protest, which may lead to similar behavior from students, parents and other spectators.
- Coaches are responsible for the safety and welfare of the team. They are responsible for the equipment issued to them and for the proper use of the facilities where practices and games are held.
- Coaches practicing at parish/school facilities should know the proper procedure for entering and securing the building. At no time should any school door be propped open. Students should not be asked to arrive for practice earlier than 15 minutes before practice time.
- Coaches should carry with them at all times pertinent information on every athlete in their care in case of an emergency. The emergency card should list obvious problems such as asthma, heart problems, and diabetes. The card should specify allergies, including bee stings, foods, poison ivy, etc. A FIRST AID kit should be at all games and practices.
- Coaches may never administer medication.
- Coaches are responsible to make sure that there is proper adult (a person of at least 21 years of age) supervision in their absence. They are responsible for athlete conduct and behavior at practices and games.
- Coaches should teach the rules of the sport and develop each player's skills within the framework of team concept. They must help player develop self-confidence, discipline, and sportsmanship and make participation a learning experience for all.
- Coaches should strive to be fair and unprejudiced in their relationships with student athletes and their parents. They should strive to be objective when they evaluate talent.
- Coaches should plan for proper physical conditioning of the student athletes. Practices should begin with stretching and warm-up exercises and end with cool downs.

- Coaches are to distribute uniforms and equipment at the start of the season and collect uniforms and equipment at the end of the season. Inspect all returned items and report any abused uniforms or damaged equipment to the coordinator.
- Coaches should ensure that athletes wear the uniform, all proper safety equipment, and any other expected attire.
- Coaches should take inventory of all sport specific equipment and uniforms. Coaches should compile a list of equipment/uniform needs for the following year and submit the list to the coordinator.
- Coaches should discipline inappropriate student behavior or disrespect. However, the coach may never resort to physical or verbal abuse or profanity. Coaches should know the difference between punitive touching (physical discipline) and corrective touching (correcting an athletes hold on a ball); one is prohibited while the other is not.
- Coaches must also take care that touching an athlete will never be interpreted in a sexual manner. Coaches must use common sense and maturity in resolving problems and conflict.
- Coaches are to follow procedures for athletes who demonstrate inappropriate behavior: First offense – verbal warning; Second offense – notify parents and principle; Third offense – notify principle.
- Coaches should assist coordinators in collecting required forms and fees from the athletes.
- Coaches should keep objective, factual, written records of problems concerning attitude and/or behavior. These records are important when discipline matters might lead to the suspension and/or expulsion of an athlete from the program.
- Coaches should communicate the schedule of practices, games, or any cancellations or alterations to the athletes and their parents in a timely manner. Coaches cannot assume that players will get the message home.
- Coaches should keep a written record of accidents and injuries and parents should be notified. While it may be impossible to document every injury and its source, an honest effort to document and notify parents in a timely manner is important for the safety and security of the student athletes.
- **The consumption of alcohol before, during or while athletes are under your direct supervision is prohibited.**

I, _____, have read the above and agree to comply with the St. John Fisher Athletic Board's Statement of Expectations as well as all school, parish and leagues rules.

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(Coaches Name)

(Coaches Signature)

(Date)