



Esperanza Academy

Athletics Code of Conduct 2020-2021

Expectations and Responsibilities for Student-Athletes, Parents, and Coaches

The purpose of the Athletics Code of Conduct is to inform student athletes, parents, and coaches of the standards we have for all who contribute to Esperanza Athletics. The Athletic Code of Conduct coincides with the Esperanza Athletic Handbook, which addresses in detail PIAA rules and regulations. Being part of Esperanza Athletics is a privilege and the Code of Conduct aims to align all involved in athletics succeed.

Parents

This material is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics and you have expressed your willingness to permit them to compete. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences that assist students in personal, athletic, and academic growth.

As a parent/guardian of a student-athlete, you also have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations, which are outlined below. Your signature on the Athletics Code of Conduct, along with the signature of your student-athlete (last page), indicates that you understand and accept those responsibilities and obligations, and agree to cooperate with school personnel in enforcing the Athletics Code of Conduct. Compliance with the Athletics Code of Conduct is mandatory and essential to the success of the athletic program. Failure to comply with the Athletics Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from the team. In addition, student-athletes are also subject to the Esperanza Code of Conduct.

Parent Responsibilities & Obligations

1. Avoid contact with opposing team and officials before, during, and after each game.
2. Respect the facilities and those working the facilities.
3. Refrain from entering the field of play at all times.
4. Refrain from entering team benches or dugouts during all games.
 - a. Esperanza is liable for any incidents that occur when parents enter team benches.
 - b. The Philadelphia Public League will not tolerate parents entering the team bench or dugout and will issue sanctions against a violating school's athletic program.

Failure for parents to meet these responsibilities and obligations will result in ban from games.

Student Athletes

Being an athlete at Esperanza is a privilege. Esperanza student-athletes must and shall adhere to the following **Athletics Code of Conduct**. A coach or athletic director may remove any athlete from the team for failure to adhere to the code.

1. Represent Esperanza and the Philadelphia Public League in a positive manner at all times.
2. Abide by the Athletics Code of Conduct for the Philadelphia Public League and the PIAA.
3. Abide by the Esperanza Code of Conduct and Athletics Code of Conduct.
4. Demonstrate respect for teachers, coaches, and fellow students.
5. Arrive on time to class and practice.
6. Strive to improve and have a positive attitude.
7. Be responsible and a team player.
8. Be coachable, honest, and ethical.
9. Use appropriate language.
10. Be a credit to your team in the classroom and in competition.

Grade Policy & Eligibility

The coach or athletic director has every right to withhold a student from practices or games, or remove an athlete from the team, if they do not meet expected standards in the classroom.

- A student with one failing grade will be ineligible for team activities: such as practice, traveling with the team, games, and uniform privileges until the student is no longer failing.
- A student can try out for a team with failing grades because grades are not checked until the roster is formed. However, coaches, administration and athletic director may choose to prohibit a student with failing grades to try out for failing to demonstrate academic responsibility.
- *** Please note that coaches are also able to create their own grade policy and standards for their players, which must be approved first by the Athletic Director.*

Uniforms

Students are granted the privilege to wear their team jersey, sweatshirt, or t-shirt on game days. Only eligible athletes are permitted to do so. Athletes who are ineligible for any reason may not partake in this privilege.

- Boys must have on full Esperanza uniform, with the exception of their school sweater, while they wear their team jersey, sweatshirt, or t-shirt.
- Girls must have on full Esperanza uniform, with the exception of their school sweater, while they wear their team jersey, sweatshirt, or t-shirt.
- A uniform violation on game day will mean the athlete will not be able to play or travel with the team on this day.
- Athletes who do not turn in uniform, or damage/lose uniform, must pay for new uniform. Failure to do so will mean Esperanza will withhold degree and transcripts.

Attendance

Athletes are expected to be in school to be eligible to participate in practice and games. In order to avoid confusion among teams and athletes, the following policy is standard for all Esperanza athletes:

- A student is not eligible to participate in an afternoon game if he/she has been absent from school that day.
- A student must be present for at least half of the school day in order to participate in a game or practice.
- Students that miss a practice without permission or valid excuse may be held out of the next game under coach's discretion.
- Students that miss a game without permission or valid excuse can be held out of any games, practices, or team travel at the coach's discretion.

PIAA Standards

- The Esperanza Athletic Handbook addresses the PIAA standards concerning eligibility restrictions due to age, tenure, and other restrictions.

Physicals

- No athlete is permitted to tryout or attend tryouts, practices or games without the **completion** and **submission** of the PIAA/Esperanza sports physical packet.
- Student, parent, and doctor signatures are required regardless of student age.

Suspensions and Removal from the Team

Teachers may reach out to coaches or the athletic director about any concerns they have pertaining to a student. This can affect student athlete eligibility status. Coaches and athletic director may decide to suspend players at their discretion. Likewise, coaches and athletic director have the right to remove an athlete from the team for any period of time for not meeting code of conduct requirements.

Coaches

Coaches are required to support the student athletes in the classroom and on the field. In addition to helping athletes develop on and off the court, coaches must ensure the following:

1. The development of an athlete academically is just as significant as their development in the sport.
2. No athlete participates or attends any tryout, practices, or games without a completed physical.
3. No ineligible athlete joins team for practices or games.
4. No ineligible athlete partakes in game day uniform privileges.
5. Athletes' parents are aware of the Philadelphia Public League policy to keep parents, family, and friends off the field of play, benches, or dugout.
6. Athletes are aware that the Athletics Code of Conduct must be followed.

On behalf of Esperanza and the Athletic Department, we look forward to a fun and successful season.

Mark Kikendall, HS Athletic Director

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215-457-3667 Ext. 1144

Please identify the way your child is allowed to go home after practices and games:

NOTE: Cross Country athletes will occasionally have practice at Hunting Park.

NOTE: Baseball / softball practice/play at Lighthouse Fields (Front & Erie).

Walk

SEPTA

Pickup by parent

Other: _____

Athlete Name

Athlete Signature

Parent Name

Parent Signature

