

# **HAACH Athletic Program Code of Conduct**

## **INTRODUCTION**

First and foremost, as Christian Athletes, we represent Christ in all we do—at all times! All involved in HAACH activities should look at these programs as a privilege, thereby doing their best to appreciate the opportunity to further minister to our community by their actions as members of HAACH teams.

## **OBJECTIVES:**

The objectives of the HAACH sports program include the following:

1. To glorify God through the use of His gifts to us.
2. To provide a Christian environment for players to develop their athletic talents.
3. To instill in the players an attitude about sportsmanship and respect to players, coaches, fans and officials that is consistent with Biblical values.
4. To develop each student's individual and team skills and strategies, as well as an understanding of different roles in team make-up.
5. To provide a Christ-like witness to players and spectators both at home and away games.

## **ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY/PARTICIPATION:**

Athletes must be 51% homeschooled and must not have participated in a home school graduation ceremony.

**Below are the HAACH Code of Conduct guidelines for players, parents and coaches. Please read through this entire handout, sign them (players and parents) and return them to your coach intact - do not separate the pages. The coach will also sign your form and hold onto it. We suggest that you xerox the handout for a handy reference in the future. These forms are also posted on our website under forms/handouts.**

## GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETES

As a Christian league, we expect the following of each athlete:

- Each athlete is expected to be committed to team goals. This implies that personal performance is *not* the focus, but is directed toward achieving team goals and team unity.
- The coach is the head of the team, and as such needs each athlete's undivided attention during practices and games. Each athlete is expected to be loyal to the coach and to give him the respect he is due as the athlete's superior. The quality of athletic experience and success depends on loyalty and a good working relationship between team members and coaches. If a problem between coach and athlete arises, both have the responsibility to work out a solution through good communication.
- The athlete is expected to maintain top physical condition by eating properly, getting sufficient rest, and observing other good health and fitness habits. As Christian athletes, it is essential to abstain from the use of tobacco products, alcohol, and illegal drugs. These items will not be tolerated and any violation will result in expulsion from the team.
- The athlete is expected to exhibit Christian values and conduct at all times. This is especially important during athletic contests. Respect for opponents and officials must be evident at all times. Such attitudes reflect on individual athletes and on HAACH.
- The athlete is required to attend every practice and game. Any absence must be coordinated with the coach prior to the event
- At all times the athlete is expected to do his/her very best, giving 100%.
- The athlete is expected to accept responsibility for the care and maintenance of all HAACH sports equipment.
- No foul or abusive language will be tolerated (at any time).
- Athletes will not question the judgments of coaches or game officials (on or off the field/court).

### Penalties:

- A player found in violation of the rules and guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may range from temporary suspension to expulsion from the program per the coach's discretion.
- Any player who verbally/physically abuses another player, participants or official may be suspended from play for the remainder of the season and may be disqualified from HAACH competition per the coach's discretion.

Athlete's signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

### **Expectations of all HAACH Parents:**

Parents are an important part of the HAACH program. HAACH is a volunteer, non-profit (501c3) organization with a governing board. Parents are expected to play a supporting role in this organization. Team needs range from: team mom, statistician, concession coordinator, admissions coordinator, printed program committee, team photography, banquet coordinators, gym/game schedulers, gym monitors, line judges, and more. This is not a pay and drop-off your children league.

**All parents are expected to help out if their children are playing on a HAACH team - no exceptions.**

### **GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS**

- As examples to our children, parents are expected to display Christ-like behavior at all times at all sporting events.
- Parents will show respect for our opponents and officials at all times.
- The parent is expected to encourage loyalty and dedication to the team, fellow parents and to the coaches. Attitudes of parents directly impact the attitudes of athletes. Prayers for athletes, coaches, and teams are important and appreciated.

**If a problem concerning the team arises, direct communication with the coach is the first step in resolving the problem. If additional discussion is necessary, the Athletic Directors/HAACH Board of Directors is available to help resolve the situation. HAACH asks parents to wait 24 hours after a game or event to approach a coach if a complaint arises. It is also requested that complaints are directed to the coach alone and not emailed and copied to others. This is in keeping with the Biblical mandate to first attempt to settle our dispute with our brother one on one.**

#### **Penalties:**

- A parent who verbally/physically abuses another player, participants or official or is found in violation of the rules and guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may range from temporary removal from the HAACH sporting event to long term suspension from admission to HAACH sporting events per the coach's/referee's discretion.

Parent(s) signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **GUIDELINES FOR COACHES**

Coaches are Christian role models for the young men and women who benefit from their instruction. HAACH recognizes that coaching is both rewarding and challenging. Coaching is also a great opportunity for developing close relationships with athletes and families, for achieving excellence in athletics, and for glorifying God.

- All coaches are expected to be leaders in exhibiting Christian values and responsibility. As a highly visible representative of HAACH and the community, the coach must accept a special role in demonstrating positive and responsible leadership and treat all athletes as *valued* members of the team.
- The coach is expected to treat all athletes, opponents, coaches, and game officials with respect, dignity, and fairness.
- The coach is expected to resolve all team conflicts with good communication, equitable treatment of all persons involved, and a willingness to achieve positive results.

### **Penalties:**

- Any coach ejected from a game because of unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for the next game and may be subject to additional penalties.
- Any coach who verbally/physically abuses a player, parent or official may be suspended for the remainder of the season and may be disqualified from HAACH participation.

Coach's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_