

Marshall Academy Athletic Handbook

Philosophy

The athletic program at Marshall Academy is student centered and is an integral part the the student's total educational experience. Athletic achievement requires a sincere commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches and administrators. For all of us to be successful, effective communication must occur. The school athletic department and administration strongly believes in being accessible to parents and supportive of the coaching staff.

We constantly strive to improve communication with students and parents. For our program to be successful, it is necessary that everyone understands the focus and direction of the program.

Responsibility of the Fan

Spectators at an athletic event have an important role in displaying good sportsmanship. As a group, your actions may have the biggest impact on how others view our school.

Fans should:

1. Compliment student-athletes in their attempts to improve and learn.
2. Respect both players and fans of the opposing teams.
3. Know and understand the rules of the game and cheer good performances.
4. Never confront an official/umpire before, during or after a game.
5. Never confront players, coaches, or fans at any time.

The Responsibility of the Athlete

An athlete is often respected and admired by the student body, spectators, your family and your community. The role is filled with responsibility. Fulfilling your responsibility as a student-athlete can be accomplished in the following ways:

1. Remember that you are representing yourself, your school, your family and your community.
2. Show respect to the integrity and judgment of the officials.
3. Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by your coach.
4. Display positive actions in public at all times.
5. Follow the guidelines and rules set forth by coaches, Marshall Academy and the MAIS.

Responsibility of the Coach

1. Follow and adhere to all rules set by MAIS for coaches and athletic policies.
2. Communicate to parents and players the practice times and game times as well as locations.
3. Exhibit sportsmanship and good moral conduct both on and off the playing fields.
4. Provide supervision of athletes at anytime they are at practice, games or on Marshall Academy campus.
5. Follow Coaches' code of ethics and list of responsibilities as described in Coaches' Handbook.

MAIS Fan Ejection Policy

Violations of the rules of conduct could lead to forfeiture of the contest, the school being placed on probation and fined, or the parent/fan being denied access to future contests and/or fined by the MAIS.

Should fans become abusive at an athletic contest, the following procedure should be followed:

i. The official should notify the host school administrator to warn the fan, that if the abusive behavior continues, he/she will be ejected from the contest. It is strongly recommended that if the fan is from the visiting team, the host administrator communicate this through the visiting headmaster (or his/her representative).

ii. Following the warning, if the abuse continues, the official should notify the host school administrator to eject the fan. The host school administrator is responsible for removing the fan, not the official.

Note: If an unsportsmanlike incident occurs at a sporting event, and the game administrator is directed by an official to inform a fan(s) that their behavior must cease, verbal abuse from the offending party may occur. In such a case, should the incident be reported to the Affairs Committee, the fan(s) will be subject to a minimum \$250 fine, and the school will be placed on probation for a period of one year. This will be the case regardless of whether or not the fan is ejected. Also, it is noted that there are some types of behavior (using profanity, throwing objects, extreme cases of disrespect towards the officials and/or game administration) that will not be tolerated, and will result in immediate removal. Note: Upon payment of the fine, and receiving a letter of apology to the MAIS, the attendance ban will be lifted. 62 b. School will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year. Upon appeal, the AAC has the authority to waive the probationary period for the school involved if said school can show that all institutional control security steps were taken. c. School will be fined a minimum fine of \$300.00. To be paid by the fan per the Board of Directors of Marshall Academy.

Coaching Ejections - The ejection of a coach from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will automatically result in the following minimum disciplinary action: a. Coach will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year. b. Coach will be fined a minimum of \$250.00; maximum of \$1000.00. c. Coach will be suspended for the next game; he/she will not be allowed to attend. For further clarification, the Affairs Committee has interpreted this to mean the next regularly

scheduled game at the time of the ejection. For example, if an additional game is scheduled, said game cannot be used to satisfy the “sit out” portion of this sanction. In addition, a suspended coach is not to have ANY kind of input (cell phone, text message, etc.) in the game. d. Case will be reviewed by the AAC, with possibility of coach being excluded from coaching all-star game. e. School will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year. f. School will be fined a minimum fine of \$300.00. Upon appeal, the AAC has the authority to waive the probationary period for the school involved if said school can show that all institutional control security steps were taken. c. School will be fined a minimum fine of \$300.00.

9. Player Ejections Rule As It Pertains To Players

a. **First Ejection** - Schools will be responsible for disciplining an athlete after his/her first ejection. b. **Second Ejection** - Any player that is ejected from an athletic contest for the second time in a school year will not be allowed to participate in athletics for two (2) weeks. Note: This is interpreted to mean that an athlete receiving his/her second ejection on a Monday, would be eligible to play on the Tuesday two weeks later. c. **Third Ejection** - Any player ejected from an athletic contest for the third time in a school year will be banned from participating in athletics for the remainder of the school year.

Rule As It Pertains To Schools

a. **Fines** - The fine for schools receiving their first, second, third, fourth and fifth ejections during a school year will be as follows: \$0, \$100, \$300, \$500 and \$1000 respectively. Note: Fines of \$100 and \$300 carry a sanction of “warning” and “probation” respectively. No school shall be fined more than \$1000 for any one incident involving multiple player ejections. b. **Third Player Ejection** - Schools that have a third player ejected will be required to appear before the Affairs Committee. c. **Fourth Player Ejection** - Schools that have a fourth player ejected in a school year will be required to appear before the Affairs Committee. The right to participate in post-season play could be taken away should a fourth ejection occur.

Athletic Eligibility

I. Absence from school -- A student who is absent from school all day on the day of an interscholastic game will be ineligible to participate. A student must be present for ½ of the school day, or 4 hours, to be considered present for the day. A student present for less than 4 hours will be ineligible for extra-curricular activities for that day, unless given special consideration by the administration.

II. Grades-- Athletes in grades 6-12 will abide by the following policy:

No Athlete, manager or student statistician will be allowed to practice or participate in any sporting event if he/she fails two or more subjects. Grades will be checked each time progress reports or report cards are issued. Following the grade report, students who are failing two or more subjects will be placed on probation. At the end of the next report period, if a student on probation is still failing two or more subjects, he/she will not be permitted to practice or play until the next grading period.

To be eligible to participate in athletics the first semester, a student must have accumulated four major credits the previous year.

(Summer school is considered an extension of the previous year) A student who is not eligible the first semester can become eligible second semester if he/she passes four major subjects the first semester.

III. All tuition payments must be paid and up to date to be considered eligible for any sports team. Any practice or team gear ordered by a player must be paid for before it is handed out.

IV. All uniforms belonging to the school MUST be turned in in a timely manner at the end of each sports season.

Marshall Academy Coaches' Code of Ethics

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the Marshall Academy Board of Directors.

- The coach shall be aware that he she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
- The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco use.
- The coach shall avoid use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
- The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.
- The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members.
- The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, booster clubs, and administrators.

- The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
- The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.
- The coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give students special consideration.
- The coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the MAIS.

Code of Ethics/Coaches Responsibilities

When entering the coaching profession, a coach accepts certain obligations and responsibilities to the players, fellow coaches, and to the game each coach directs. If we are to keep the coaching profession on a high level, we must assume all the responsibilities in such a way that we will give our profession honor and dignity.

- The coach, in contact with each player, should by principle and example set a pattern of behavior for each student, for he/she influences those more does than any other person. Parents put their dearest possessions under the coach's guidance and therefore coaches should be sure to see that athletes are better for having played under them.
- The coach should see that every injured athlete is given immediate medical attention.
- The coach should remember the first function is to educate a student through participation in athletics.
- Coaches should remember the position they hold in the school system and that they must support the administration in all policies, rules, and regulations. Where there are differences, they should be discussed behind closed doors.
- The coach should be sure that every participant fulfills all the rules and regulations for eligibility. Anyone who attempts to circumvent eligibility rules and to use ineligible players should be guilty of unethical conduct.
- The coach should inspire every student to achieve the highest academic success possible.
- Every coach should have a good knowledge of all rules of the game that he/she is in charge. Coaches should never attempt to disregard any rules to their advantage.
- Coaches should stress good sportsmanship, and if they defend the use of unsportsmanlike tactics, they should be considered guilty of a break of coaching ethics.
- Every head coach should coordinate responsibilities for assistant coaches and properly communicate all duties required of them.

- Support your fellow coaches and sports by attendance at sporting events.
- Conduct fundraising efforts to supplement needs that may occur beyond the allotted budget. Funds are to go directly to MA Booster Club for disbursement as needed and approved.
- Properly maintain bus and any other forms of transportation. You are responsible for cleaning vehicles each time your team uses them.
- Collect and inventory and properly store team uniforms in a timely manner when sport season is over.

Signed _____

Date _____