

Meadow Montessori School Athletic Code of Conduct

Meadow Montessori School Mission Statement

We at Meadow Montessori School commit to challenge and empower one another to discover our unique talents and abilities so as a community of life-long learners we are inspired to serve humanity.

Pursuing Victory as we Honor One Another

Athletic competition provides all of us with a special opportunity to honor one another's achievements through our play and sportsmanship. Although our teams will be competing with victory in mind, it is critical that each athlete/fan also be competing with a desire to honor one another through their words, attitudes, and actions. Parents and coaches need to play an important role in helping each student consistently integrate these two goals: Pursuing Victory and Honoring Montessori Values.

To help accomplish this goal, Meadow Montessori School asks each family to review the following Athletic Code of Conduct. After agreeing to abide by these principles, each parent and athlete is asked to sign and return the pledge sheet at the end of this document.

- 1. Best effort/best attitude:** We desire every LCS athlete and team to pursue victory with *passion*, to think and play as a team, and demonstrate self-discipline in making the right decisions when using school athletics to bring honor to Meadow Montessori School.
- 2. Respect:** Show class to teammates, coaches, officials, parents, and opponents at all times. Be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity.
- 3. Responsibility in the classroom:** Support the educational concept of "being a student first." Participating in athletics may be more "fun" but earning an excellent Meadow Montessori education is more *important!* Provide your best effort in the classroom and on the field of play.
- 4. Trustworthiness:** Do what is right, be loyal to the team, be worthy of others trusting you in all that you do. Consistency in being on time, encouraging teammates and coaches, and following through on what you promise to do will earn you the important characteristic of being trustworthy.
- 5. Role-Modeling:** Wearing a team uniform that says *Meadow Montessori* on it carries a special responsibility to your school. Others are watching and evaluating how Meadow Montessori Athletes act, talk, and behave on our athletic

fields, courts, and in the stands. Let's consistently conduct ourselves in a manner that honors the Meadow Montessori Philosophies.

On the last page of this document, please sign the pledge sheet demonstrating your understanding and support of the Meadow Montessori Athletic Handbook and the principles entailed.

ATHLETIC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Meadow Montessori School athletics is to provide a well-balanced program to supplement the social, physical, and academic growth of our students. Our primary purpose is to guide students to discover and recognize their unique gifts and abilities and to develop their skills in order to achieve their full potential. Athletics is a microcosm of life, in other words, life in miniature. Our purpose is to direct athletes in these situations so as to build the following character qualities: self-discipline, leadership, cooperation, commitment, self-control, and perseverance.

MEADOW MONTESSORI ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

It is a privilege for students to participate in Meadow Montessori Athletics. Since the conduct of students reflects upon the entire school and community, students engaged in Meadow Montessori athletics are expected to act as model representatives of their school and abide by the provisions of the Meadow Montessori Athletic Code of Conduct throughout the period of their participation in athletic activities. This Athletic Code is in agreement with Meadow Montessori School philosophies and handbook.

I. Adherence to MHSAA Eligibility Requirements

The student athlete will abide by the rules and regulations of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) which are described later in this book. Additional detailed information can be obtained through the Meadow Montessori Athletic Department.

II. Academic Eligibility

In order to participate in athletic programs, a student must:

1. Be enrolled as a full-time student.
2. Pass all classes in each semester.

If a student fails to pass a class in a semester, he/she will be ineligible to participate the following semester.

3. Have a satisfactory weekly report, which is determined by whether or not the athlete is passing all his/her classes.

If after one warning a student receives a failing weekly report, he/she will not be able to participate in scrimmages or games for the next full week in school (next Monday through Sunday), but will be required to attend games, practices and sit on the bench. If a student receives a warning for the same class for three consecutive weeks he/she will be ineligible for one full week. At that time the student will start over with a clean slate in that class. If a student receives three or more warnings from three or more classes in one week he/she will be ineligible for one full week.

III. School Attendance

A student athlete is expected to attend at least ½ day on the day of a contest or practice. If extenuating circumstances exist which prevent ½ day attendance, the Athletic Director, can, at his discretion allow participation. The purpose of this section is to prevent student athletes from participating when they are ill.

IV. Practice Attendance.

Team members are expected to be present at all team practices, team meetings, games, awards ceremony, and special occasions unless excused by the head

coach. Coaches have the authority to determine if an athlete has unexcused or excessive absences and to take appropriate action.

V. Care of School Equipment and Facilities.

Student athletes are responsible for all school equipment issued to them. The students or their parents must pay for lost, stolen, or damaged equipment before participation in athletic activities will be allowed. In addition, athletes should see that appropriate equipment is returned to the proper place. It is expected that students will take proper care of the facilities being used.

VI. Transportation to Athletic Contests.

All team members will travel to contests by means of transportation provided or communicated by the Athletic Director. In many situations, parents may be required to provide transportation home from away contests.

VII. Medical Release to Participate after Injury.

If a student athlete is seriously injured, he/she must have a written doctor's release before he/she can return to practice or compete in athletic contests.

VIII. Physicals.

Physical examinations are required of all student athletes at Meadow Montessori School **before** they may participate in sports. MHSAA physical forms are available in the Athletic Office. They may be used or attached to a card provided by the family physician. The form must be presented to the coach or Athletic Director **prior to preseason practice.**

IX. Personal Conduct.

Participation on an athletic team at Meadow Montessori is a privilege, and the participants must earn the right to represent Meadow Montessori by conducting themselves in such a way that the image of the school is not tarnished. Any participant, whose conduct is judged to represent a discredit upon the athlete, the team, or the school, whether such activities take place during or after school hours, will receive disciplinary action as determined by the coach, the Athletic Director, and/or the school administration.

Behavior in the school before and after games should be exemplary. Remember that others may be forming judgments about Meadow Montessori School based upon each player's attitude and behavior.

X. Technical Foul/Carding Policy

Any player or coach receiving a technical foul, a yellow card, or a red card will have a meeting with the Athletic Director the next school day.

XI. Use of Substances.

Using tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs or steroids is prohibited 365 days/year. Once an Athlete participates in a sport (Freshman, JV, or Varsity) at Meadow Montessori he/she is considered an Athlete for the remainder of their high school career and subject to all Meadow Montessori Code of Conduct rules. All violations start at point of the infraction and carry over into next season if necessary.

1st Violation = Suspended for 1/3 of the season (1/3 of scheduled games)

Practice time will be determined by the Athletic Director.

2nd Violation = Suspended for 1 full calendar year from athletics.

3rd Violation = All Athletic Eligibility rights are taken away. Student may not participate in any athletics at Meadow Montessori for entire High School career.

XII. Quitting a Team.

The normal rule for student athletes quitting a team is that they make themselves ineligible for any sport during that season that has already begun. Also, he/she cannot participate in any preseason conditioning or practice for the next sport season until the end of the current sport season.

XIII. Removal from the Team.

The removing of an athlete from a team may be made by the coach and/or the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will confer with the coach before any removal action is taken. Causes for removal from the team include, but are not limited to the following:

- Use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal use or possession of drugs or steroids not prescribed by a physician.
- Continual violation of any Meadow Montessori School Handbook requirements.
- Repeated violations of the Athletic Code or team policies.
- Personal misconduct involving the police or court action either during or outside of school hours.
- Verbal or physical attack upon an opponent, contest official, teacher, fan or any other person.
- Continual acts of unsportsmanlike conduct.

XV. Safety.

Every effort should be made to eliminate injuries. Players must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems to their coaches, follow a proper conditioning program, and inspect equipment they use.

XVI. Grooming/Dress.

Appearance, expression, and actions always influence people's opinion of athletes, the team, and the school. Once a student has volunteered to be a member of the school team, the athlete must hold to high standards of

cleanliness, modesty, and neatness. It is preferred that athletes dress up when attending both home and away games.

GOVERNANCE

The School Board of Directors

The School Board of Directors is the ruling agency of Meadow Montessori School. It has the final authority on all matters of policy. It also approves the means by which the professional staff may make these policies effective. It has the responsibility of evaluating the interscholastic athletic program in terms of its value to the school community.

The Administration

The Athletic Director has the responsibility of administering the sports program of the school and is directly supervised by the Head of School and the Board of Directors.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association

Meadow Montessori School is a member in good standing of the Michigan High School Athletic Association which is a private, voluntary association of public, private, and parochial secondary schools. The primary function of the Association is to sponsor tournaments and ensure that member schools have rules and guidelines to promote equitable competition.

MHSAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS

1. **Age.** High school students become ineligible if they reach their nineteenth (19) birthday before September 1 of a current school year.
2. **Physical Examination.** Students must have on file, in the school's office, a physician's statement for the current school year (after April 15) certifying that she/he is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests.
3. **Enrollment.** Students must be enrolled in school prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day (first semester) or the fourth Friday of February (second semester). A student must be enrolled in the school for which he or she competes.
4. **Semesters of Enrollment.** Students cannot be eligible in high school for more than eight semesters and the seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive.
5. **Semester Records.** Students must have passed at least four full credit subjects in the previous semester of enrollment, and must be currently passing four full credit courses.
6. **Transfer Students.** A student in grades 9 through 12 who transfers to another high school is not eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest for one full semester unless the student qualifies for immediate eligibility under one of fifteen published exceptions. Students and parents anticipating a change of schools should first seek advice from their high school administration.
7. **Undo Influence.** The use of undue influence by any person directly or indirectly associated with a school to secure or encourage the attendance of a

student for athletic purposes shall cause the student to become ineligible for a minimum of one semester.

8. Limited Team Membership. After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the season. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school.

9. All-Star Competition. Students shall not compete at any time in any sport under MHSAA jurisdiction in all-star contests or national championships regardless of the method of selection. Participation in such a contest shall cause that student to become ineligible for a maximum period of one year of school enrollment.

10. Awards and Amateurism. Students cannot receive money or other valuable considerations for participating in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contests, except as allowed by the MHSAA HANDBOOK. Students may accept, for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a value over \$25. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips and admissions to camps or events, are permitted if accepted "in kind".

Awards in the form of cash, merchandise, certificates, or any other negotiable document are never allowed.

Note: Consult the MHSAA HANDBOOK for detailed regulations and/or interpretations.

MEADOW MONTESSORI ATHLETIC PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Parent Consent Form

Each parent or guardian is responsible for knowing the requirements a student must meet to participate in athletics at Meadow Montessori School.

Costs

The athlete must pay the cost of his/her physical exam and for various equipment, such as shoes, cleats, socks, various gloves, jerseys, etc. If financial conditions exist that make it difficult for a team member to purchase mandatory equipment, the athlete or his/her parents should contact the athletic office so that confidential arrangements can be made to supply such equipment.

Uniforms

The school furnishes uniforms. The students have a responsibility to keep them clean and to turn them in, immediately following the close of the season. Report cards are withheld until the clean uniforms are returned.

Restricted Practice and Game Days

All practices are to be held on school days, if possible. Holiday practices are to be discouraged. No Sunday practices or games are allowed.

Tryouts

Prior to trying out, the following information will be made available to all candidates for the team.

1. Time of tryouts.
2. Criteria used to select the team.
3. Number to be selected.
4. Practice commitment if the candidate makes the team.
5. Game commitments.
6. Season commitments.

Donations

Donations to a sport or athletic department are needed and appreciated. The final say on how the donation is spent will be determined by the athletic director and coach.

Parent Coach Communication.

Both parenting and coaching are laborious and complicated roles that adults assume in the successful functioning of the Meadow Montessori athletic program. By establishing an acceptance and an understanding of each role, as well as a vehicle for positive communication, we are better able to create a healthy athletic environment and provide greater benefit to the athlete. Clear communication among the school, the coach, the athlete and the athlete's parents is essential to a good program.

1. Communication a parent can expect from the coach.
 - a. The basic philosophy of the coach.
 - b. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as for all players on the team.
 - c. Locations and times of all required practices, bus departures, scrimmages, and contests.
 - d. Conditions that result in the denial of your child's participation.
2. Communication that a coach should expect from parents.
 - a. Personal notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
 - b. Special concerns that involve your child expressed directly to the coach at an appropriate time.
3. Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches.
 - a. Concerns about your child's educational progress as related to athletic participation.
 - b. Ways to help your child improve.
 - c. Concerns about your child's behavior, on and off the field or court.
 - e. The treatment of your child, mentally or physically.
4. Inappropriate concerns to discuss with the coaches.
 - a. Playing time.
 - b. Team strategy.

- c. Play calling.
- d. Other student athletes.
- 5. Procedures for parent-coach discussions.
 - a. Call the coach to set up an appointment. All coaches may be reached through the athletic office. If the coach can not be immediately contacted, a message will be delivered and your phone call will be returned within 48 hours.
 - b. Please do not attempt to confront a coach just prior to, during or immediately after a contest or practice session. These are emotional and stressful times for the parent, athlete, coach and team. Confrontations of this nature do not promote healthy resolutions.
 - c. Improper contact or communication with a coach may result in denying attendance at one or more games.
- 6. Procedures for unsatisfactory parent-coach discussions.
 - a. If after meeting with the coach of your child's team, you still have unresolved concerns, call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to further discuss the situation.
 - b. If the meeting with the Athletic Director does not satisfactorily resolve the problem, the next step is to set up an appointment with the Head of School.

Head of School: Cathe Calder _____
Sign

Athletic Director: Paul Payne _____
Sign

Continued Below

2009/2010 School Year – Athlete’s Graduation Year - _____

MEADOW MONTESSORI SCHOOLS SPORTS REGISTRATION CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT ATHLETES to be completed one time per athletic career

COMPLETE LEGAL NAME OF STUDENT:

GRADE: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____ / _____ / _____ SCHOOL: _____

HAS STUDENT ATTENDED A HIGH SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL OTHER THAN THE ONE LISTED ABOVE? Yes No

NAME IF YES: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

FATHER/GUARDIAN NAME: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

MOTHER/GUARDIAN NAME: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

FAMILY DOCTOR: _____

PHONE: _____

LIST ANY ALLERGIES OR SPECIAL MEDICAL INFORMATION BELOW:

I HEREBY GIVE MY CONSENT FOR THE STUDENT NAMED ABOVE TO ENGAGE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND UNDERSTAND THE POSSIBILITY THAT SERIOUS INJURY MAY RESULT FROM PARTICIPATING IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT THE ABOVE STUDENT WILL BE EXPECTED TO ADHERE FIRMLY TO ALL ESTABLISHED ATHLETIC POLICIES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION. I RECOGNIZE THAT AS A RESULT OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION, MEDICAL TREATMENT ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS MAY BE NECESSARY AND FURTHER RECOGNIZES THAT SCHOOL PERSONNEL MAY BE UNABLE TO CONTACT ME FOR MY CONSENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE. I DO HEREBY CONSENT IN ADVANCE TO SUCH EMERGENCY CARE, INCLUDING HOSPITAL CARE, AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY UNDER THE THEN EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES AND TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPENSES OF SUCH CARE. I AUTHORIZE MEADOW MONTESSORI SCHOOL TO USE A PHOTOGRAPH OR VIDEO RECORDING OF MY CHILD FOR DISTRICT NEWS OR WEB PAGE PUBLICATIONS. MY SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT I HAVE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT AND I AGREE ON BEHALF OF THE ABOVE NAMED STUDENT AND MYSELF TO ABIDE BY ALL OF ITS PROVISIONS.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____

Date: _____

Continued Below

AS AN ATHLETE, I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM EXPECTED TO ADHERE FIRMLY TO ALL ESTABLISHED ATHLETIC POLICIES OF MEADOW MONTESSORI SCHOOL AND MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SUCH AS THOSE STATED IN THIS DOCUMENT. MY SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT I HAVE READ THIS

ENTIRE DOCUMENT AND I AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL OF THE STATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND CODE OF THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE ADDITIONAL POLICIES I MUST ADHERE TO WHICH ARE NOT CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT.

SIGNATURE OF ATHLETE: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE CHECK OFF SEASONS AND LEVELS OF ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES YOU ARE PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

FALL _____ WINTER _____ SPRING _____ LEVEL: 9 JV V

OFFICE USE ONLY:

PHYSICAL VERIFIED _____ EMERGENCY CARD VERIFIED _____