

Athletic Code of Conduct

The athletic program will be conducted in accordance with existing Baltimore Lab School policies, rules and regulations. The school encourages good sportsmanship and good health. At all times, the athletic program must be conducted in such a way that it is an educational activity. Please be advised that with all athletic competition, there is a risk of injury. Some physical contact does occur between players. All coaches at Baltimore Lab School are CPR and AED certified.

Objectives of the Baltimore Lab School Athletic Program

1. The athlete learns the value of teamwork, self-discipline, development of a strong work ethic and personal sacrifice. Contribution to the team is more important than personal goals or individual achievement.
2. The athlete learns to be a good sport while developing self-control, honesty and a spirit of cooperation.
3. The athlete learns to be a good winner as well as a gracious loser in defeat. Sportsmanship is an important value that is a major objective for all Baltimore Lab School Athletes.
4. The athlete learns to appreciate the skills and abilities of his/her opponent.
5. The athlete learns an appreciation of playing by given rules.
6. The athlete learns the value of physical fitness that leads to a sound body, healthy mind, and life-long health habits.
7. The athlete learns, in a positive manner, to cope with the competitive nature of athletics and society.

Requirements for Participation:

1. **Physical Examination-** A yearly physical examination is required. The **physical card** must be completed by the physician and submitted to the athletic department. The examination covers all sports for the entire school year provided it was administered prior to the start of the current school year. The form will be kept on file at nurse's office at Baltimore Lab School.

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2. **Emergency Medical Authorization-** Each athlete's parent/guardian must complete an **Emergency Medical Authorization Card**. This card gives permission for the treatment of a student by a physician or hospital when a parent is not available. The card will be kept with the head coach for availability at all practices and contests.
3. **Parental Acknowledgement of Athletic Policies-** At the time a student joins an athletic team, he or she will be presented with this Athletic Code of Conduct. Each parent/guardian and athlete shall read the material and certify that they understand the athletic eligibility rules and policies of Baltimore Lab School. This signed document will be kept on file at Baltimore Lab School.
4. **Scholastic Eligibility-** In order to participate on a Baltimore Lab School athletic team, each athlete must have satisfied all of the scholastic eligibility requirements prior to participation. This includes maintaining a 2.5 average in all classes, being on time for all classes, and attending school regularly.

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Participation in Baltimore Lab School athletics is regarded as a privilege and not a right. All athletes must follow the policies and rules of Baltimore Lab School in order to participate on a sports team. Acts of unacceptable conduct in school or during participation in a sporting event will result in consequences.

Penalty for Violation:

Because of the serious nature of the following rules, the coach involved, athletic director and head of school will meet to determine the consequences according to the degree of the infraction. These consequences may include:

- First Violation Penalty
 - After confirmation of the first violation, the head coach and/or athletic director will meet with the student to discuss the violation and ways to modify behavior. Also, a call to the parents will be made by the coach or athletic director to notify the parents of the violation.
- Second Violation Penalty
 - After confirmation of the second violation, the head coach, athletic director, school administrator and student's parents will meet to discuss the situation. The student will sit out practice/games for a length of time discussed in the meeting.
- Third Violation Penalty
 - After confirmation of the third violation, either suspension or dismissal from the team will be at the discretion of the head coach, athletic director and school administrator.

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Resolving Athletic Issues:

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure you should follow is:

1. Encourage your athlete to solve his or her own problems first.
2. Call/email the coach to set up an appointment.
3. Do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest. These can be both emotional times for both the parent and the coach.

If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution:

1. Call/email and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director Mr. Ramgopal (410-261-5500) to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Athletic Participation Rules:

1. **Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs** - Any student using or possessing alcohol, tobacco, or drugs shall be in violation.
2. **Tuancy** - Any student-athlete referred to the office of the headmaster for a school rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in all athletic activities for a period determined by the headmaster.
3. **Policy of Fighting and Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Conduct in Interscholastic Sports** - Fighting, taunting, or displaying any sort of poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.
4. **Scholastic Eligibility Requirements** - To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, junior high and high school students must be in good academic standing. A student with lower than 2.0 average may not be allowed to participate in a sport.
5. **Missing Practice** - An athlete should always consult with the coach before missing practice. Missing practice or a game without good reason will be handled by the coach. Please try to avoid scheduling any appointments or events during practice time or competition.
6. **Conflicts in Extracurricular Activities** - The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities and, to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts.
 - a. Students have the responsibility to do everything possible to avoid continuing conflicts. They must also notify the instructors and coaches involved immediately when a conflict arises.
7. **School Attendance Requirement**: Athletes are expected to attend all classes. Athletes absent from classes will not be allowed to participate in a practice or contest on the day of the absence. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Athletic Director and Head of School. Athletes who are suspended from school may not practice or participate during the time of suspension.

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8. **Release from Class** - It is the responsibility of athletes to see their teachers the day before the classes they miss because of athletic events. All work should be made up.
9. **Reporting of Injury** - All injuries should be reported to the head coach. If the injury requires medical attention by a doctor, the athlete must obtain the doctor's written permission to return to the activity. If an injury does occur outside of athletic participation, please notify the head coach or athletic director immediately.
10. **Prepared with Equipment** – Players should have necessary equipment (i.e. proper footwear and clothing) for practice and games. Not being prepared with correct equipment may cause for loss of participation for that practice/game. Exceptions can be

Players' Rules for Practice/Games:

- Play by the rules
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviors in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Parent's Signature: _____

Student's Signature: _____