

Northland Homeschool Athletics Code of Conduct

This code of conduct applies to all athletic activities associated with Northland Homeschool Athletics (NHA).

NHA values sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among all players, coaches, officials, and spectators. The following conduct requirements are intended to advance these values in a manner consistent with NHA's mission and Statement of Faith.

Athlete Expectations

Athletes representing NHA are highly visible during competition and have the opportunity to represent Christ before all spectators. This means that NHA has high standards for the conduct and commitment of our athletes. The expectations of NHA athletes are as follows:

1. Athletes are expected to exhibit Christ-like character and integrity at all times. This includes showing respect for coaches, officials, teammates, opponents and fans at all times.

“Encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are doing”
(1 Thessalonians 5:11).

2. Athletes will foster good sportsmanship and teamwork at all times. This includes committing to practice and play as a team as directed by the coach for the good of the team.

“I discipline my body, and keep it under control...lest I become disqualified”
(1 Corinthians 9:27).

3. Athletes are expected to attend each practice and give full effort with a good attitude. Choosing not to participate in practice or showing disrespect to the coach may impact participation in subsequent meets.

“Whatever you do, do it with all your heart, as for the Lord, and not for men”
(Colossians 3:23).

4. Athletes are expected to accept responsibility for taking care of track & field equipment and uniforms. This includes cleaning up facilities owned by other entities that are used by the athletes.

“...Giving no cause for offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited” *(2 Corinthians 6:3).*

5. Athletes will experience challenges during practice and competition. Sometimes their expectations of their own performance will not be met. In these times they should choose not to let their emotions overcome them, but persevere in the challenge.

“But we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance” *(Romans 5:3).*

Initials: Athlete _____ Parent _____

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Parent Expectations

Parental support is essential for our children in every aspect of their lives, and supporting your student athlete is no exception. There is great opportunity for parents to model Christ-like attitudes and behaviors to their students in the athletic arena. Parents and spectators should maintain control over their emotions and treat all athletes, coaches, officials, volunteer and paid staff, parents, and spectators fairly and with respect. NHA asks you to do this in the following ways:

1. Encourage all athletes of both teams to play to the extent of their ability. Cheers should be done in a positive, supportive manner, even when your student isn't playing. Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
2. Encourage athletes and players to respect the decisions of NHA coaches and staff. Always support their roster decisions to other parents and to your own child. Aggressive, disrespectful, profane, or intimidating language, gestures, or posture shall be grounds for dismissal from practices or meets.
3. Coaches and coaching assistants should be shown respect by honoring their decisions and wisdom by athletes and parents. Coaches give of themselves all season and their primary motivation is the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of the athletes. In addition, please show respect for the coaches by picking up your child promptly from practice and games.
4. Parents and staff members should spread Christ's love during events and games. All parents and staff members are ambassadors for Christ and NHA. They should cheer for good athletic prowess for all athletes. Regardless of the event result, all parents and spectators should be treated with respect and love. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
5. Opposing coaches and staff should be regarded with honor and respect. Remember that they are there to encourage their athletes as we are ours. Praise coaches and staff of opposing teams for their commitment to their athletes. Aggressive, disrespectful, profane, or intimidating language, gestures, or posture shall be grounds for dismissal from events.
6. Event officials and referees shall be treated with respect and admiration for their service toward the sport they have committed themselves to overseeing. Remember that they are making decisions based on fast moving events and what they see from their vantage point. All rules should be respected, and the decisions of the officials are to be upheld regardless of who the result favors. All conversation with officials should be respectful.

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If a parent has a concern about any situation having occurred during a practice or meet, they are expected to document their description of the event in writing to provide to the board chair at info@northlandfalcons.org. Allegations or concerns not submitted this way will not be given due process. If you would like to discuss any issues, please contact the athletic director, if there is one, or the NHA board chair about scheduling an appointment to meet.

Coaches, staff, and officials have the authority to issue verbal warnings and/or eject any athlete, parent, or spectator from any meet if the athlete, parent, or spectator violates this Code of Conduct. Any individual who NHA determines in its discretion has violated this Code of Conduct shall be subject to sanctions as determined by NHA. Sanctions may include, suspension of the athlete from participation, prohibition of the parent from attendance, or suspension or expulsion of the student from NHA. There will be no activity fee refunds as a result of any disciplinary action by NHA.

Zero-tolerance Bullying Policy

Bullying in any form will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary actions. Bullying is defined as any physical, emotional or verbal harassment by athletes, coaches or parents during any NHA sanctioned or unsanctioned event. Any manipulation in any form qualifies as harassment. Individuals who are found to have engaged in bullying risk suspension for the remainder of the season in addition to jeopardizing their opportunity to participate in other NHA sports.

By signing this document you agree to abide by all expectations contained herein.

Athlete Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

If there are any questions concerning the expectations in this document, please direct all correspondence to info@northlandfalcons.org.