

Friends School of Baltimore  
Athletic Philosophy and Team Agreement  
2011-2012

### Athletic Philosophy

A Friends School education is a balanced experience where Academics, the Arts, and Athletics are interdependent and of equal value.

We believe that a fully integrated athletics program is an essential part of our commitment to educating the whole child. Athletics allow students to have fun, develop self-discipline, and build fulfilling relationships. Through participation in the athletic program and the experience of competing, students are motivated to realize their potential as individuals and teams, leading them to more fully embrace the core Quaker belief that there is that of God in every person. As such, athletics are an integral part of our students' educational experiences. Friends values the opportunity that the athletic program provides to promote the Friends School tradition of communities coming together, and acknowledges the important role that it plays in the present and future physical, emotional, and social well-being of our students. In their pursuit of excellence, our athletes, coaches, faculty, staff and fans are committed to bringing the best of themselves to their teams and to the greater Friends community.

### Policies

A member of an athletic team at Friends School has to meet a number of responsibilities and obligations in order to earn the privilege of representing the school. The following statements are important and necessary guidelines for any member.

1. Athletes are expected to make a commitment to the school, their teammates, coaches and, most of all, themselves when participating playing on a Friends team. A Friends sports team should take precedence over other teams outside of school.
2. Being a member of a team is a time-consuming commitment. Many hours are necessary in order to become a proficient, effective member of the group. Being absent from practice causes a lapse in the acquisition of team skills and working together as a cohesive unit. Everyone occupying a place on the team must be prepared to make a total commitment. Practices are mandatory. Players missing practice should expect to see less playing time as a result.
  - It is to the player's advantage to schedule appointments at times other than practice times, to avoid jeopardizing playing time.

- Unexcused absences from practices will result in a disciplinary consequence. Absences from practices must be excused by a parent.
  - If a player is not in school all day she/he may not participate in practice or a game. If a student does not participate in Physical Education class due to illness or injury, he/she may not participate in practice or a game that day.
3. As a Quaker school we expect that all in our community will strive to live out the Quaker testimony that there is that of God in every person. To that end, our parents, students, players, and coaches will not taunt or use abusive language toward opponents, referees, or fellow spectators. We will cheer for our team and not against another.
  4. Selection to Varsity or Junior Varsity teams is based on maturity and the skill of an individual player, as well as their consistent commitment to the team. Varsity teams are not selected on a class basis. Athletes are placed on teams according to their individual abilities, and being an upperclassman does not ensure placement on a Varsity team.
  5. Parents agree to work cooperatively with the child's coach and will discuss any concerns with him or her as a first step toward resolution. Concerns should be shared at an appropriate time and in a calm and respectful manner.
  6. All team members are expected to share equal responsibility for equipment at practices and games, and to help set-up for and clean-up after athletic contests home and away.
  7. When buses are provided to transport teams to and from the contests, all players must ride the bus to the contest unless they have received permission from the Director of Athletics. To receive permission, a parent must send a note to the athletic office clearly signed and stating the date and place of contest. A player may leave a contest with a parent/guardian after notifying the coach of their plans to do so.
  8. Uniforms are provided by the school at the beginning of each season. It is the student-athlete's responsibility to keep the uniform in good repair and return it at the end of the season. Failure to do so will result in a charge on the student's account.
  9. Athletes are expected to adhere to the school's Policy on Drugs and Alcohol. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action from the athletic department.

Friends School Team Agreement 2011-2012

We have read and agree to abide by the team policies stated above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team Member's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Team Member's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date