

# Code of Conduct

## Our Lady of the Wayside Athletics

Being an athlete requires more than just joining or making a team; it creates many demands that require sacrifice and responsibility. Being an athlete is a privilege. If the individual is willing to accept the burden of responsibility, athletics will repay the athlete with many rewards.

At Our Lady of the Wayside, one who decides to participate as an athlete accepts the responsibilities contained within this Code of Conduct.

Participation in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or teams representing different schools. It is much more than winning or losing. All athletes should exhibit the traits of good moral character. It also means understanding and appreciating the meaning of teamwork and sportsmanship. This guide will help young athletes by establishing a code for their conduct.

All Our Lady of the Wayside athletes

- 1) ...will exhibit acceptable standards of citizenship; all students are expected to follow OLW policy.
- 2) ...will maintain satisfactory academic proficiency, and will abide by the eligibility rules, procedures, and outcomes.
- 3) ...will refrain from any use of profanity or obscenity whether spoken, written, or gestured (including text messaging). This will not be tolerated.
- 4) ...do not believe in quitting. They never quit during a contest or practice, even when winning seems hopeless. An athlete who quits a team is not eligible to participate in another sport for that season.
- 5) ...realize that even though winning is one of their goals, they will retain modest behavior. Athletes also know that losing is part of the game; they will be gracious in defeat.
- 6) ...show good sportsmanship. When an athletic contest ends, athletes will be courteous and congratulate opponent on a good effort.
- 7) ...will develop and have pride – in the team, teammates, coach, school, and most importantly, in themselves.
- 8) ...encourage and support their teammates at all times. They never criticize a teammate nor blame someone for a bad play or loss. A successful team works together; they win and lose together.
- 9) ...do not dispute any official's decision. It is assumed that all participants in the management of the game, whether coaches and/or officials, are doing their best; just as it is assumed that athletes are trying to do their best. Coaches will represent individual athletes and the team in a dispute with the game officials. Any disrespect towards an official will not be tolerated.
- 10) ...will speak with respect to all students, faculty, and staff at OLW and at other schools. Insubordination and disrespect are not behaviors that will be tolerated.
- 11) ...directly represent OLW, the local community, and their coaches when they are involved in any activity, sports-related or otherwise, which brings them into contact with others. Therefore, athletes will conduct themselves in such a way as to be a credit to all parties concerned.
- 12) ...accept the responsibility for taking proper care of all school equipment and uniforms. All clothing items must be returned clean at the end of the season. Athletes understand that they must make restitution for any lost and/or damaged equipment and uniforms. Athletes will not be invited to try out for another sport until all items are returned and accounted for.

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- 13) ...will maintain a clean and proper locker room ensuring clothes are kept off the floor. When visiting another school, the guest locker room should be left in a clean and proper manner.
- 14) ...understand that there is a direct correlation between practice time and playing time.
- 15) ...will be out of the school building no later than one-half hour after practice and games.
- 16) ...who are absent from school either a whole or half day are ineligible to participate in a game or practice session on that day. A student who does not participate in physical education class will not be permitted to participate or play in any athletic contest on that day. Excused absences may be granted based on special circumstances (i.e. family emergency, doctor appointment).
- 17) ...understand that they are students first and athletes second.

Violation of this code of conduct is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the team.

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**Athletic Code of Conduct Contract**

**Parent/Guardian and Student:**

Please sign the form below and return to your coach before the first day of practice.

**OUR SIGNATURES INDICATE WE HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE ATHLETICS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print – Student Athlete’s Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sport

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Athlete’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date