

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Speech:

Proverbs 16:23 "A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction."

1. Choose your words and your timing wisely. Questionable language or "slang" words will not be tolerated. Anything negative or insulting must be avoided.
2. Be positive and encouraging. Lift your student and others up. Let them know they are important. Let them know the importance of being a member of a team.
3. Never criticize the officials or coaches. They are representatives of authority. This is a great opportunity to teach your child how to respect a person in authority. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God. Insist that your child address the coaches and officials with respect.
4. Never be involved in negative cheering.
Example: In basketball, chanting "air ball" or screaming while the opponent is on the free throw line shows poor sportsmanship. In baseball, making noise while an opponent is at bat show poor sportsmanship.
5. Never speak negatively around the students or other parents about:
 - a. The School – Negativity can be contagious. Instead, create an atmosphere of gratitude.
 - b. Other student or parents – Speak to parents only about your students and their students. Speak to other students only in an encouraging manner. The only time another student or parent's name will be mentioned is in a genuine complimentary fashion.
6. Never criticize your child's teammates. Remember to teach your child team attitude.
7. Always resolve differences with your coaches out of sight and earshot of students and other parents. Call to set an appointment to speak with the coach privately. Pray about what you will say and what is motivating your discussion.

Relationships:

John 15:12 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

1. Develop good relationships and a good rapport with teammates and coaches. God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. You have an opportunity to minister and be an encouragement to others. If sports becomes all about you and your student, you need not participate.
2. Develop relationships and a good rapport with other parents. You will need their prayers and support as much as they need yours.
3. Develop relationships and a good rapport with parents from other schools. Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others. Promote your school and your students. The relationships you develop are a reflection on our entire ministry.

4. Develop relationships with the coaches. Get to know the coaches. Pray for them. Communicate with them with an open heart and mind. Be open, honest, and use gentle words.

Unity:

1 Corinthians 12:12 "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ."

1. Develop unity with our school family. God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us has different roles and responsibilities. Never be jealous or envious of someone else's role. Be busy fulfilling your role. Your example of being a unified school body is a valuable lesson for your students to learn.
2. Develop unity within the Kingdom. We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to further the Kingdom of God. Pray for them as you pray for ACS.

Motives:

1 Corinthians 10:31 ". . . whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

1. Be motivated by the love of God. Live for Him because He gave His life for us.
2. Strive for victory as a tool to teach your children. Teach them that athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself. *"Perfection is what you are striving for, but perfection is an impossibility. However, striving for perfection is not an impossibility."* John Wooden
3. Use your child's experience as a chance to be involved in his/her life. Your relationship with your child as an adult will last longer than your relationship with them while they are in your home. If you want a relationship with them as adults you need to begin building that relationship *now*. Athletics affords you that opportunity.

Behavior:

1 John 2:6 "Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."

1. Maintain class and character. You are setting the example for your children. Realize that your every action reflects upon you, your family, ACS, and ultimately your Lord.
2. Always insist that your children follow instructions. Coaches must depend on a player's ability to follow orders immediately and without question. Questions will be raised at the appropriate time, such as at practice or after a game.
3. Always dress appropriately. Modest attire that does not attract attention to you and away from your child will be worn. Even in warm weather events a Christ-like appearance must be maintained.
4. Be an example and a guard. Set the standard high for behavior and appearance and do not be afraid to speak to those who are indifferent to our ultimate purpose.

5. Working with the officials . . . not working the officials. Badgering an official to persuade a call our way, comes with too high a price – our testimony and our ability to influence those others for Jesus Christ. There is never a time at any contest where a parent is afforded an opportunity to say anything to an official other than “Thank You”. Without these men and women, and their willingness to officiate, no one is playing ball.
6. Remain in the stands. Never attempt to approach the field, court, bench area, press box, score table or the officials before, during or after a ballgame. Socially visiting with the coach briefly after a game is encouraged. Game officials are off-limits.
7. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat. Coaches, students, parents and spectators will need to be strong in this area. Shake hands with our visitors before and after the game.
8. Recognize the success of your opponent. Compliment the good play of students from the other school. Congratulate their coaches on a well coached game.
9. Teach your children that they have a special purpose from God. It is their responsibility to accept God’s purpose for them. Do not compare or contrast them to others. This limits their ability to fulfill their own unique potential and purpose.
10. Have fun, touch lives and be yourself. You have the opportunity to be a positive influence, like no one else may be able to, in the lives of your children and their peers. Games, plays and officials will be forgotten, but your behavior and attitude will stay with your child forever.

Note: Conduct detrimental to the testimony of the school may result in removal from the athletic arena.

I have read and understand the Parent’s Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it’s principles and guidelines at all Ashland Christian sporting events. I fully understand I may not participate without a signed copy of this document on file in the office.

Parent or Guardian’s Name	Student Name
---------------------------	--------------

Parent or Guardian’s Signature	Date
--------------------------------	------