



Student Athlete Code of Conduct

Rationale

Mount Pisgah Academy believes athletics play a vital role in developing sportsmanship, fostering school spirit, and promoting physical fitness. We strive to provide a well-balanced spiritual, academic, physical, and social education in a Christ-centered environment that promotes the restoration of God's image in each student. We believe athletic programming supports this mission and nurtures each student's journey with Jesus.

Athletics offer valuable opportunities for students to learn essential life lessons that extend beyond the classroom. Teamwork, perseverance through physical and mental challenges, and learning to win or lose with grace are all key aspects of a student's development. Building good character takes time, and participation in athletics helps cultivate these traits.

Coaches, parents, and other community members can help students develop such habits by continually discussing, modeling, and reinforcing positive attitudes and beliefs over time. Participation on an athletic team demands a commitment that involves both dedication and sacrifice. This is required of not only student athletes but also coaches, parents, staff and community members.

All members of our athletic community—including students, coaches, parents, staff, and supporters—are called to represent Christ in all they do. Our conduct should always bring honor and glory to God and reflect the values of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Mount Pisgah Academy.

Mission

To honor God, share Jesus with others, and reflect Christ's character to our entire community through interscholastic athletics that foster joyful leadership, inspiring growth—mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually—and instilling the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, and strength of character.

Values

Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics is designed to demonstrate the key attributes of the Seventh-day Adventist church. We seek to honor Christ in all that we do (Col. 3:23), and we strive to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:30-31). We honor the Sabbath as a central aspect of our faith (Is 58:13-14) and endeavor to witness to others through exceptional sportsmanship (Matt. 5:16).

In alignment with these values, Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics is led by dedicated, mission-consistent coaches with sport-specific competencies. These coaches should provide an environment of joy for our student athletes and focus on teaching the skills of respectfully interacting with authority, working together as a team, and winning and losing graciously.

Furthermore, Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics is designed to support the academic, spiritual, social, emotional, and physical goals of Mount Pisgah Academy and intentionally operate at an appropriate competitive level of play for our current student athletes.

Finally, Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics is built upon standards of the NAD physical education curriculum:

- PE.2.2 Utilize social skills (teamwork, sportsmanship, collaboration).
- PE.2.3 Build respect (self, coaches, teammates, opponents, etc.).
- PE.3.2 Display positive sportsmanship in competition.
- PE.5.2 Utilize effective practice methods to improve performance.
- PE.7.4 Represent Christ, school, and self in a positive manner.
- PE.8.VH.11 Demonstrates respect for others as a spectator or participant in games.
- PE.8.RB.3 Provides Christ-like encouragement and feedback to peers while a participant and/or spectator, without prompting from the teacher/coach
- PE.8.PF.10 Participates in moderate to vigorous aerobic and/or muscle- and bone-strengthening physical activity for at least 60 minutes per day at least five times per week (e.g., step aerobics, recreational team sports or outdoor pursuits).

Eligibility

Registration Forms, specifically the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, must be reviewed and signed by each student and parent/guardian before the student may participate in athletic events.

Sports Physicals must be completed by a medical professional for each student to ensure that they are in optimum health and are safe to participate in sports. Students will not be allowed to participate in athletic events without a complete, signed sports physical turned in to the Athletic Director.

Registration Fees are required to partially offset student athletes' incurred costs and vary depending on expected expenditures.

- Varsity Sport: \$150
- Junior Varsity Sport: \$100
- Trip Free (per trip): \$250

Age of a student participating in any team scrimmages or contests must be under nineteen (19) years, except if the student's nineteenth (19th) birthday falls on or after August 1 of the current school year, in which case they remain eligible for the remainder of that year. Any student born before August 1, 2006, is ineligible for team scrimmages or contests.

Eight Semesters or twelve trimesters of athletic eligibility during high school (Grades 9–12) is the maximum allowed. Once a student enters 9th grade, they have eight semesters of eligibility. Students are not permitted to compete after graduating from high school.

Outside of Team participation in other contests during a student athlete's sports season is not allowed.

Attendance at practice sessions and contests is a requirement. With this in mind, student athletes must

- Be at all practice sessions and contests at the times designated by the coach both mentally and physically prepared for athletic participation
- Make prior arrangements with the coach for necessary absences due to illness, medical or court appointments, the death of a family member, quarantine, or Mount Pisgah Academy approved activities, such as Pathfinder events

Academics should be a high priority for student athletes. To be athletically eligible to make the roster of a varsity team a student athletes must

- Hold a report card that includes a GPA of 2.0 or higher in their previous semester of high school classes

School Citizenship that is exemplary is essential to participation on athletic teams. Therefore, students athletes must

- Maintain good standing at Mount Pisgah Academy
 - A student who is suspended from Mount Pisgah Academy (in school or out of school) may not represent the athletic ministry program as a student athlete for the duration of their suspension.
- Follow the Standards of Conduct as outlined in the Mount Pisgah Academy handbook at home and away games, both as participants and spectators
- Be present at classes and work assignments to participate in that day's scheduled extracurricular activities (competitions and practices).

Good Sportsmanship is a requirement of student athletes.

Student athletes should

- Represent Christ in all that they do and display exceptional sportsmanship
 - Failure to follow the athletic ministry program sportsmanship code of conduct will result in disciplinary action as laid out in the sportsmanship discipline plan.
- Persevere and give 100% of their effort no matter the circumstances
 - Accept winning or losing graciously and congratulate opponents after each game
 - Exhibit respect for authority (i.e. administrators, officials, coaches, captains)
 - Encourage and support their teammates

Note 1: Standards and Rules of the Carolina Athletic Association for Schools of Choice (CAASC) and the Blue Ridge Athletic Conference (BRAC) will be upheld.

Note 2: Participation Time should be equitable, though not equal, for all team members. The amount of playing time in contests will vary with the skill level of the individual and the game situation. Ultimately, the distribution of all playing time is at the head coach's discretion.

Community Standards & Expectations

Sportsmanship Code of Conduct

- Support your team in a positive way
- Treat officials with respect at all times during or after an athletic event
- Treat all participants and spectators with respect
- Compliment extraordinary performance from either team
- Be gracious in victory and dignified in defeat

Conflict Resolution

Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics strives to be open to any and all suggestions or concerns and to address them in a timely manner. To make a suggestion or present a concern, all participants must follow the Matthew 18 Principle (Matt. 18:15-20) as described in the following guidelines:

- All issues or concerns must be initially addressed by meeting with the person(s) responsible for the concern.
- If the concern is not resolved upon meeting with the responsible party, the concern should be brought to the attention of the Athletic Director.
- If the concern is not resolved upon meeting with the Athletic Director, the concern should be brought to the attention of the Principal.
- If the concern is not resolved upon meeting with the Principal, the concern should be presented at a Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics Council meeting.

Issues or concerns should not be brought to a coach immediately prior to, during, or following an athletic event, unless it is medically necessary. Sharing concerns in private conversation with an individual Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics Council member, an individual church board member, an individual school board member or others is not acceptable. The goal of Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletics is to act in a positive, forgiving, and humble way that promotes a Christian atmosphere in our interpersonal relationships.

Athletic Ministry Discipline Plan

Sportsmanship is more important than the result of the game. The score of any athletic event is generally forgotten over time, but the actions of the players, coaches, and spectators are remembered. In-game sportsmanship is considered in the distribution of playing time.

The following are three levels of behavior that are inappropriate for student athletes. Each level is addressed as described below. All disciplinary interactions will be recorded and tracked. This policy applies to all verbal and disrespectful behavior, including conduct displayed on social media platforms. Such behavior includes but is not limited to:

Level 1: Official Warning	Level 2: Suspension	Level 3: Team Dismissal
• Continuing play after the whistle • Trash talk towards opponents • Interactions with the crowd during a game • Removing jersey while on the bench • Pre-game uniform violations • Impermissibly leaving gym during game • Taunting an opponent visually or verbally • Use of profanity (undirected)	A (2 Game Suspension) • Two Level 1 Offenses • Ejection from an athletic contest • Use of profanity directed toward others • Pretending to help an opponent up B (4 Game Suspension) • Verbally/visually disrespecting officials or coaches • Throwing the ball at an opponent • Intentional acts of physical aggression	• Repeated/multiple Level 2 Offenses • Fighting (whether initiated or not)
Documentation of behavior exhibited required. The student athlete will be consulted. During a game: Athlete must be removed for at least 10 minutes of real time; further play at Athletic Director/Coach discretion. Before a game: Athlete may not start or play during the first 10 minutes of real time; further play at Athletic Director/Coach discretion.	Documentation of behavior exhibited required. The student athlete and their parents will be contacted. The student athlete will have to meet with the athletic council to make the final decision. If a student athlete is suspended it will affect their eligibility for postseason awards.	Documentation of behavior exhibited required. The student athlete, parents and athletic council will be contacted. Additional school discipline possible.



Student Athlete & Parent Agreement

By signing below, we agree to abide by the policies and expectations set forth in this Student Athlete Code of Conduct and understand the responsibilities involved in being a member of the Mount Pisgah Academy Mountaineers Athletic Ministry Program.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

I am willing to volunteer in the following positions at athletic events:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Admissions | ☐ Videographer |
| ☐ Concessions | ☐ Event Management Assistant |
| ☐ Announcer | ☐ Soccer Ball Runner |
| ☐ Scorebook | ☐ Volleyball Line Judge |
| ☐ Scoreboard Operator | ☐ National Anthem Performance |