



LANCER LACROSSE CLUB
ATHLETIC CODE OF
CONDUCT

Lancer Lacrosse Club

Athletic Code of Conduct Handbook

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I. Statement of Purpose

This Lancer Lacrosse Club (LLC) Code of Conduct and Handbook is provided to help everyone involved with LLC to understand the expectations for each athlete as they participate as students and athletes in the LLC.

The LLC strives to develop good character in students, demonstrated through honesty, respect, responsibility, and caring. This Athletic Code of Conduct and Handbook is meant to help achieve this goal. These traits are described as follows:

Honesty: to develop honesty and truthfulness between and among players, coaches and community. Honesty can be observed through individual demonstration of integrity, trustworthiness and accountability in words and actions and a sense of justice and fairness in dealing with others.

Respect: to develop respect between and among players, coaches, community, and the various groups within society. Respect can be observed and demonstrated by the individual being a skilled listener, friendly and sensitive towards others, having a respect for self, compassion, and a sense of confidence in interpersonal relations and social skills, a respect for laws and rules and operating as a peacemaker.

Responsibility: to develop responsibility between and among players, coaches, and community. Responsibility can be observed and demonstrated through self-discipline, cooperation with others, perseverance in completing tasks, dependability, promptness, accountability in actions and a general commitment to doing one's best.

Caring: to develop caring between and among players, coaches and community. Caring can be observed and demonstrated through the showing of compassion, forgiveness, and generosity, cooperating with others, helpfulness, service to others and acts of kindness.

II. Athletic Objectives

The student athlete shall learn to:

Work with others: Develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. The team and its objectives must be placed higher than personal desires.

Be successful: We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.

Develop sportsmanship: In order to accept any defeat like a true sportsman, knowing we have done our best; we must learn to treat others, as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation and dependability.

Improve: Continual improvement is essential to success. As an athlete, you must establish a goal and you must constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skills involved and those characteristics set forth as being desirable.

Enjoy athletics: It is necessary for athletes to enjoy participation, to acknowledge all of the personal rewards to be derived from athletics, and to give sufficiently of themselves in order to preserve and improve the program.

Develop desirable personal health habits: To be an active, contributing team member it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits, and to develop the desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

III. Participation

Interscholastic athletics is based on the concept of reward competition. Rewards (playing time) are distributed unequally to athletes on the team on the basis of performance among those participating in the activity.

Interscholastic athletics is not an entitlement program where you get to play because you were selected for the team. Opportunities will be presented at practice for you to develop and acquire mature sports movement patterns and team concepts. By learning to play hard at practice, you will be given a chance to demonstrate to the coach each and every day (not just on game day) the ability to work effectively in a team setting and make a contribution to the success of the team.

Absolutes in athletics:

- Everyone will make mistakes;
- Only some athletes can play at a time;
- The coach determines who plays;
- There is always a winner and a loser;
- Your coach will coach to win the game.

A. Registration Fee

There is a registration fee to participate in the competitive athletic program offered by Lancer Lacrosse Club (LLC). The cost of the fee is determined by the cost to administer the program (see LLC Team Fee). This fee must be paid by the first day of practice or tryouts unless other arrangements have been made with the LLC Board of Directors.

No student will be ineligible to participate in the athletic programs of the LLC solely due to inability to pay. Students/parents may complete an application for reduced or waived fees by contacting the LLC Board of Directors. Each case/request will be considered individually based upon the circumstances. The final decision for reduced or waived fees will be the decision of the LLC Board of Directors. If requesting a reduced arrangement or fee waiver, the athlete will be allowed to practice while the request is being considered and processed.

B. Volunteer Requirements

The LLC is a private club not funded either directly or indirectly by the Shawnee Mission Public School District. Although LLC is a non-funded school sport, athletes at the high school level may be eligible for a Varsity letter through participation (**working with Ryan Johnson for confirmation).

As a private club, the LLC has found it necessary to arrive at revenue through a combination of participation fees and a variety of fundraising efforts.

A requirement of participation as an athlete in the LLC is that all athletes must, in addition to their participation fee(s), commit to a minimum of 5 volunteer hours to the LLC in the community. We have numerous activities that happen all year round.

Each year the LLC Board of Directors will determine the necessary volunteer work and/or contributions that will be required of each participating athlete and/or family to stay in good standing and participation within the LLC (see Fund Raising Participation Requirements). For example our Mulch fundraiser each spring.

IV. Athletic Eligibility Rules and Regulation

All parts of the Shawnee Mission Public Schools student code of conduct apply to members of the LLC teams at both home and away contests. Where the "Athletic Handbook" is more appropriate to the demonstrated behaviors, the code of conduct will be enforced.

Loss of Extra-Curricular Privileges – Participation in Lancer Lacrosse is a privilege, not a right. An athlete may lose this privilege for an extended period of time as part of his consequences for a violation of the student-athletic policy and/or training rules. Inappropriate behavior or involvement in any violation of the law will be dealt with on an individual basis by his coach or the LLC Board of Directors. This would include things such as fighting, hazing, or unsportsmanship on and off the field but not limited to. These items or others may result in suspension, termination of participation, loss of privilege to participate or a behavior contract. Consideration for lesser penalties will be given to a student athlete who self-discloses.

Athletic Policy and Training Rules – The use of alcohol, tobacco or other harmful or illegal substances found in the NCAA Banned-Drug classification listing constitutes a training rule violation. Consequences in the student code of conduct shall be enforced.

In addition, athletic training rule penalties shall be enacted.

- The first violation shall result in the in a 5 day consecutive suspension (Monday - Saturday)
- The second violation will result in a minimum of a 12 day suspension from LLC participation (Monday – Saturday).
- The third violation will result in suspension from the team for the remainder of the season. The application of these training rule actions will be in place during the school year. The training rules actions will be applied during the school year with no carry over to the next calendar school year. The Head Coach may establish additional team and/or training rules and regulations once approved by the LLC Board of Directors. Discipline, due to violations of these rules and regulations, will be the responsibility of the involved coach. However, the LLC Board of Directors has the authority to intervene in any disciplinary action after discussing the matter with the involved coach.
- If an athlete is suspended from school for any reason, he/she will not be permitted to practice or play in any game during the suspension.
- A violation shall occur when an administrator or athletic staff member of the SME Public School notifies the LLC Board of Directors that such a violation took place. The LLC Board of Directors will then investigate the allegations. The student will have a hearing with the LLC Board of Directors and the involved coach.

It shall not be a violation of the Athletic Code for an athlete to use or possess a prescription drug when taken pursuant to a legal prescription issued by a licensed physician for which permission to use in school has been granted according to SME Public School Board Policy. An athlete shall notify his coach if he is taking prescription medicine which could alter behavior of the athlete or affect the ability of the athlete to participate in physical activity.

Appeal Process – Parents/Guardians have the right to appeal a suspension if they believe that the evidence does not support the allegations and consequence.

The steps of the appeal process are:

First level of appeal is to the involved Coach

Second level of appeal is to the LLC Board of Directors

V. Overview of the LLC Program

At all levels of play:

- The athlete will learn that in order to make a team/start, he must outperform his peers. He will also learn that hard work, good attitude and discipline will pay off in the long run.
- After the athlete has been selected as a team member, he will not only have to outperform his peers at daily practice but also work to mesh their individual skills into the cooperative team concept. This will allow JV players the opportunity to move up to Varsity as well increase playing time at all levels.
- The needs of the team will always outweigh the needs of the individual.
- The athlete will attend practices, scrimmages and games that will provide him with opportunities to display and enhance his athletic related skills and also cooperative/team abilities in order to earn the playing time he seeks.
- There is an accepted risk of injury in participating in the interscholastic athletic programs.

Equipment and other financial obligations:

1. **Club issued uniforms and equipment** – All athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them. LLC furnished equipment is to be worn only for contests and practice. All LLC furnished equipment not returned in good condition, and in a timely manner at the end of the season will be subject to a financial penalty.

2. **Athlete purchased uniforms** – In some cases, athletes will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform which will become their property.

3. **Athlete purchased equipment** – All athletes will be required to purchase various pieces of sport specific equipment. Examples include but are not limited to: shoes, cleats, socks, various gloves, practice jerseys, lacrosse sticks, helmets, etc. All athlete-supplied equipment is the property of the athlete.

VI. Problem Solving

The Lacrosse programs offered by the LLC will provide some of the most rewarding moments in your life. Knowledge of the problem resolution protocol will be beneficial. There may be times to problem solve issues and knowing the procedure is important.

It is not acceptable to confront a coach or LLC Board Member before, during or immediately after a contest. These are emotional times and meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

We recommend that any player having an issue with coaches or other players first talk to a team captain to see if they can help resolve any issues. If that doesn't resolve the issue, the next step would be to request a player-to-coach discussion. With this self-advocacy approach, step #1 is for the player to approach the captains and then ask to discuss the issue with the coach.

If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, step #3 is to arrange for a meeting between the player, his parent/guardian and the appointed LLC Board member. The board member will call the involved coach to set up an appointment.

If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, step #4 is to call the President of the LLC to discuss the situation or set up a meeting. During this conversation, a resolution will be made about the appropriate next step (if any) that will be pursued.

VII. Acknowledgement

LANCER LACROSSE CLUB

STUDENT ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Name of Participating Athlete

I, (name of parent/guardian of participating athlete), acknowledge receipt of the Lancer Lacrosse Club Code of Conduct. I will review the code of conduct with my child to assure an understanding of its contents.

We agree that participation in the LLC requires adherence to any and all conduct requirements listed in the LLC Code of Conduct.

Signature of Athlete Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date