



# École Okotoks Junior High School

## Student Athlete Code of Conduct

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**Where, each learner, entrusted to our care, has unique gifts and abilities. It is our mission to find out what these are....explore them...develop them...and celebrate them!**

**Foothills School Division #38**

<b>Principal</b>	Ms. Tracey McKinnon	Principal
<b>Vice-Principal</b>	Ms. Andrea Laubman	Vice-Principal
<b>Athletic Director</b>	Mr. Drew Hoover	Athletic Director



## ÉOJHS expectations of student athletes



1. Attendance: Students must be in attendance for the day of a practice or game in order to participate in that practice or game. Legitimate reasons for an absence which would allow a student to participate on the same day as the absence are:
  - School Sanctioned Activities
  - Appointments with health professionals
  - Emergency Situations
  - Planned absence for personal or educational purposes that have been approved by the school administration.
2. Academics: Athletes at École Okotoks Junior High School are student-athletes, which means they must have good attendance, good attitude in their classes, and be up to date in their studies. Students must abide by the Athlete Code of Conduct in order to participate fully in their sport.
  - Students who are absent from classes for a portion of the day due to illness are not eligible to participate by simply making it to the remaining portion of their classes. It may be considered unethical for a coach to practice or play an athlete who was ill earlier in the day.
  - An athlete under suspension from school is also suspended from participation in extracurricular activities, until such time as the student has been reinstated to classes.
3. Injury: All student athletes should carry some form of medical insurance. If an athlete is injured while participating on behalf of École Okotoks Junior High School, the school will not cover medical costs (e.g. Ambulance costs). It is suggested that any student athlete not having medical coverage subscribe to the student insurance package which is offered at the beginning of each year. Any student that is injured on or off the field of play and requires medical attention must present a note from a physician before being eligible to practice or play again.
4. Commitment: Being a member of any school team is a privilege that each athlete must earn. A key to earning that privilege is commitment to the team. Team success can only be achieved if all participants are committed. This type of commitment includes:



- Attendance at all practices, games and team events.
  - Providing the coach with advance notice of absences from practices or games, and an explanation of that absence.
  - While it is acceptable for a student athlete to have a job, it is not reasonable to expect the coach to accept working as a legitimate reason for missing practice or a game.
5. Team Selection: Coaches must conduct an open tryout and may not make final cuts until after the second practice. Final selections should be based on attitude, coach-ability, and skill. Once the team has been selected, the coach must promptly submit a roster to the Athletic Director and administration.
6. Practices: All practice schedules must be presented to the Athletic Director and Administration. Coaches should distribute a practice schedule to players and parents and post on the school webpage. Coaches should do their utmost to adhere to the practice and game schedule.
7. Communication: Clear communication between coach and player, player and parent, parent and coach and between players is critical to avoid misunderstanding. This communication can be initiated and maintained in a number of ways:
- At the beginning of season Coaches should provide a written statement of their philosophy, team goals, fees, and player expectations and outline these policies in a mandatory parent meeting.
  - Coaches will outline the process for communication. This process needs to apply to all parties, and can be outlined for all in a letter or email.
  - Coaches will hold a pre-season meeting.
8. Support the team, the players, and the coaches by helping your child to follow and uphold the École Okotoks Junior High School Student Athlete Code of Conduct.



## Code of Conduct - Parents

As a spectator at a school function, I realize I am under the school's jurisdiction. My actions reflect upon the school I represent and I recognize my responsibility to exemplify the highest standards of conduct.

I will:

1. Demonstrate courtesy and good sportsmanship by positive cheers of encouragement for my child's team and not against the opposing team.
2. Support referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
  - a. Let coaches run the game.
  - b. Accept officials' decisions as final.
  - c. Respect the efforts of scorekeepers and other minor officials.
3. Not use artificial noisemakers, including but not limited to air horns, cow bells, plastic tube horns, garbage can lids, etc.
4. Be respectful at all times to other players, coaches and spectators.
5. Have the team fees paid within 2 weeks of team selection

As a guest in the school I also understand that I must abide by all the rules of that school, the policies and procedures of Foothills School Division and the Alberta School Act.

I understand that non-compliance with the above Code of Conduct may result in my removal/ban from all FSD events.

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_



## Code of Conduct - Players

As a participating student athlete of École Okotoks Junior High School extra-curricular sports program, I agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

I will:

1. Offer constructive support of all participants.
2. Show appreciation of good plays by both teams.
3. As a host school, welcome visitors and guests, offering all possible assistance.
4. As a visitor, respect the property and regulations of the host school.
5. Recognize the integrity of the officials, realizing and respecting the difficulty of their decisions.
6. Accept the officials' decisions as final.
7. Respect the feelings of all participants and show empathy for an injured or disqualified player.
8. Express thanks to those responsible for the opportunity to enjoy a school sports activity.
9. Demonstrate respect toward all student athletes, spectators, coaches, parents and officials at all times, including when using social media.
10. Learn and respect the rules of the sport.
11. Accept victory or defeat graciously, respecting the efforts made by all.
12. Follow the guidelines of the École Okotoks Junior High School expectations of the Athletic Code of Conduct.

I understand that if I do not comply in any way with the above Code of Conduct, sanctions may be applied which could include removal from my school team and subsequent disciplinary actions at the school level.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## Parent Coach Communication Letter to Parents and Athletes



Both parents and coaches support the student athlete. By clarifying each role, we are better able to support your child. Coaches are volunteers and give their valuable time to work and help improve your child's leadership abilities, athletic ability, social skills, team cooperation and responsibility.

Guidelines to help you as a parent to support the athletics programs at École Okotoks Junior High School are:

### Student to Coach Communication:

- concerns are expressed privately and directly to the coach
- notify any schedule conflicts well in advance
- specific concerns in regards to a coach's expectations and/or philosophy: As your son or daughter becomes involved in the sports programs at École Okotoks Junior High School he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments in their school career. It is important to understand however that there will be times when things do not go the way you or your son/daughter wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

### Parent to Coach Communication:

- concerns expressed privately and directly to the coach away from the court setting (it is recommended that a wait time of 24 hours be adhered to before contact is made) regarding specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and or expectations
- notify of any scheduling conflicts well in advance

### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

- the treatment of your child mentally or physically
- ways to help your child improve
- concerns about your child's behavior
- any influence that the activity is having on your child's academic performance

It may be difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you or they may hope to be. Coaches make fair play judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved and the team as a whole. While there are certain things that should be



discussed with your child's coach, there are also certain things that should not be discussed. Those decisions will be left to the coach's discretion and will be communicated in a coaches meeting pre-season.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged but the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern:

- call and set up an appointment with the coach
- approach the meeting to find resolution not confrontation
- please do not confront a coach before or after a game or practice - these can be emotional times for both the parent and coach, and our coaches are instructed to walk away from such situations.

The Next Step:

- call and set up a meeting with the Athletic Director and Administration to discuss the situation
- at this meeting if a resolution cannot be reached, the next step can be determined

The coaches at École Okotoks Junior High School recognize the importance of extracurricular activities. We provide a program that strives to provide your child with a positive and meaningful experience.

Sincerely, École Okotoks Junior High School Coaching Staff

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_