

## **Willard LEARNS Sports Student/Athlete Contract**

The following are the regulations and expectations of the Berkeley LEARNS Middle School Athletic Programs, and of the Willard LEARNS After School Sports Program.

Student-athletes must be in good academic standing and adhere to the Code of Conduct for athletes. Student-athletes must uphold the 4 B's.

Student-athletes participating on a team are required to maintain a minimum HOW (Habits of Work) score of 3 in every class. Grades will be reviewed periodically throughout the season. If a student-athlete does not maintain a minimum HOW score of 3, then they will be required to attend to after school academic support with their own teachers at least once a week in order for them to remain eligible. If a student-athlete does not attend academic support then they will become ineligible from game play until they begin to attend to after school academic support and demonstrate progress based on their HOW score.

To regain eligibility status, student-athletes must follow these steps:

- Student-athletes must be responsible for displaying academic progress towards maintaining a minimum HOW score of 3 in every class. To do this, students will be required to:
  - Attend after school academic support with their own teachers at least once a week.
  - Prove they are making academic progress towards achieving all 3's by submitting a weekly progress report that is signed and debriefed with each of their teachers.

Please note:

- Weekly Progress Report forms will not be accepted on game days. No Exceptions.
- Marked & signed weekly progress reports must be submitted to the Athletic Director's mailbox in the main office by 4pm the day before the following game in order for a student athlete to be deemed eligible for the next game.

### **Student Behavior**

I will follow the rules of the school Student Handbook, and I will treat all members of the school community respectfully. I understand that playing time is subject to this requirement, and that suspension from school may be grounds for suspension from games or dismissal from the sports team.

### **Athlete Sportsmanship**

I won't use foul language or inappropriate gestures on or off the playing field/court. I won't address any official unless I am a captain. I shall be respectful of all officials, coaches, players and event personnel at all times. I shall also be careful in the use of any facility so as to cause no damage. I understand this is the appropriate conduct for student/athletes, and I shall govern myself accordingly. Failure to follow to any of the above mentioned rules may end my participation in the athletic program and risk suspension from school.

## **Attendance Policy**

All athletes are expected to attend **all practices** and games unless they are ill. If an athlete is ill/injured but able to attend school, he/she is expected to attend and observe practice sessions and games. If an athlete does not attend school, he/she is not permitted to attend practice sessions or games. Players must arrive on time with required equipment (shoes, practice clothes or uniform) and be ready to practice or play.

## **Cell Phones & Electronics**

Cell phones and other electronics cause distractions during Team Time, and as such will not be permitted during practices, games or team meetings. To avoid penalties, please confirm your plans with parents/guardians before the school day begins.

## **Playing Time**

It is understood that this is a competitive environment, and *there is no guarantee of minimum playing time*. In the interest of fairness and commitment to the learning experience of each player, consideration will be given to all players for an opportunity to play a reasonable amount of time during the season. The coaches will make decisions on player selections, game lineup, player position and amount of playing time. Players must be positive in fulfilling the role they are asked to perform for the team at any moment, which may include not playing, coming off the bench, or playing a different position.

# Berkeley LEARNS

## Parent Contract

### Parent Sportsmanship

Parents must always show good sportsmanship. Only coaches can talk to officials, either in person or from afar. Keep all comments from the stands positive and supportive. Poor sportsmanship from parents is unacceptable, and playing time of athletes may be reduced or halted if parents conduct themselves in an inappropriate manner. Personal parent-to-player or parent-to-coach contact during game time is prohibited. Conduct and communication must reflect the understanding that **our school's reputation is built on sportsmanship, and the presentation set forth by each parent and fan.**

### Parent Expectations

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun, and that the game is for the kids, not adults.
- I will make transportation arrangements with my child before game days, and pick my child up promptly following all practices and games.

### Sideline Coaching

Because a team will perform best when following just one set of instructions, no sideline or bleacher coaching will be allowed. Shouting instructions or addressing officials or coaches during games creates unwanted distractions from the learning process. Your vocal support and positive encouragement are welcome after a good play, but "Go" or "Shoot" are interpreted as instructions and as such are not desirable. Berkeley LEARNS Middle School Athletic Program insists the Team Coach be the only voice at all games and practices. **Only assigned coaches may sit with the team during Game Time; please respect the space necessary for the coach and team to carry out their responsibilities.**

## **Team Development**

Success for LEARNS Program teams will be measured in many ways. At times, coaches will instruct players to do things that parents and fans may not understand or agree with. Team and player development will often be prioritized over winning. Parents must respect the larger goals of the program as implemented by coaches.

## **Playing Time (“PT”)**

There is NO guarantee of minimum playing time. In the interest of fairness and commitment to the learning process of each player, consideration will be given to all players for an opportunity to play a reasonable amount of time during the season. The coaches will make decisions on player selections, game lineup, position and amount of time. Parents and players must remain positive in fulfilling the role that our student-athletes are asked to perform, which may include not playing, coming off the bench, or playing a different position.

## **“Game Time” & Visiting**

At Willard, Game Time begins when the school day ends. **Our teams are expected to start & finish Game Time together without interruption.**

“Game Time” includes the ALL of the following pieces & processes:

- Dressing for games
- Eating snack
- Traveling (as needed)
- Warming up
- Playing / competing during a game / match / contest
- Debriefing during Halftime
- Debriefing after games

Student-athletes will be expected to be physically and mentally present for the entire Game Time (post-game meeting included), and will be released by their coaches upon completion of the above listed activities. Please respect the entire process, and encourage your child to be a productive part of it from start to finish.

## **Cell Phones & Electronics**

Cell phones & electronics distract student-athletes from the team experience, and as such will not be permitted during practices, games or team meetings. To avoid penalties, please confirm your plans with parents/guardians before the school day begins.

## **Student Behavior**

Student-athletes must follow the rules of the school Student Handbook, and treat all members of the school community respectfully. I understand that playing time is subject to this requirement, and that suspension from school may be grounds for suspension from games or dismissal from the sports team.

## **Attendance Policy**

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## **Registration and Fees**

Each player must have all required forms completed (including but not limited to the After School Program registration packet) and on file in the ASP (After School Program) office. Fees for the season are equivalent to regular ASP monthly fees. Fee scale is a sliding one, based on family income. Students will not be turned away from participation for lack of funds; please contact the ASP Coordinator for more information.

## **Uniforms**

Like Library books, our uniforms are provided on loan for the duration of the season. Uniforms must be washed in cold and hang-dried, and must not be worn at any time outside of the appropriate pre-game and game time window. Uniforms are the responsibility of the student-athlete and their parent/guardian(s), and must be returned at the end of the season in the condition they were received in. Any uniforms that need replacing due to loss, damage or theft are the financial responsibility of the parent/guardian.