



# M.M.C.A. Student Code of Conduct for Extra-curricular Activities

MMCA students have the opportunity to participate in a number of extra-curricular activities. Examples of these activities include:

- Athletics (examples: Girls' VB team, Boys' BB team, etc.);
- Clubs (examples: Chess Club, Dance Club, etc.);
- Overnight Outings (examples: the Fall and Spring Campout, Sly Park, and Washington, D.C.)

## **Philosophy**

The Maria Montessori Charter Academy Board of Directors ("MMCA Board") believes strongly that a well-developed after school program is integral to students' educational progress and that participation will enhance students' social, physical and educational development. The MMCA Board supports a comprehensive program that is challenging and rewarding to the school's students.

Maria Montessori Charter Academy Coaches and event and activity organizers will adhere to the following principles in all athletic programs and other offerings:

We promote extra-curricular activities as an educational experience provided to students as an extension of the classroom and an enhancement to a student's social, physical, and educational development;

We promote the spirit of sportsmanship, teamwork, and fair play with student-athletes/competitors and coaching staff in all competitions, minimizing the focus on wins and losses as sole factor of success;

We encourage coaches, parents, and fans to be positive examples and role models to student-athletes/competitors in the spirit of fair play and competition;

Coaches, student-athletes/competitors, and parents involved in MMCA programs should demonstrate the highest standards of ethics and sportsmanship.

The development of good character and other important life skills should be at the forefront of student-athlete/competitor participation.

Participation in Maria Montessori Charter Academy (MMCA) extra-curricular activities is a privilege earned by students through his/her observance of the following policies. The highest potential of any competition or activity is achieved when students, coaches and

parents are committed to achievement with honor, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good sportsmanship.

### **Expectations of Attitude**

Students in extra-curricular activities are expected to be respectful of themselves and of others.

They shall be punctual, honest, communicative, be able to work as part of a team and conduct themselves in a way that brings honor to their school.

Participants shall follow all school rules and all rules related to their activity.

Students who do not demonstrate these behavioral expectations may be removed from the E-C activity.

### **Sportsmanship**

Student athletes/competitors are expected to be a model of good sportsmanship at all times.

### **Controlled Substances**

Use of drugs and alcohol is prohibited for all students at MMCA. Any participant caught testing positive for or under the influence of a controlled substance at any time will be dismissed from the activity and may be expelled from the school.

### **Academic Eligibility for Extra-curricular Activities:**

Academics are the primary focus of MMCA. Special attention will be paid to the grades of all the students in our e-c activities. Frequent checks on grades will be made by the Principal. Students are strongly encouraged to utilize their “free time” (e.g. “off” period(s), weekends) wisely. Specifically, players are strongly encouraged to complete their schoolwork ahead of schedule. Students are required to have the equivalent of a 2.0 GPA to be eligible to participate.

### **Tryouts and Evaluation Procedures for E-C Activities with a limited capacity:**

For some of our E-C activities, particularly sports teams, try-outs may be necessary. While the try-out process is a relatively subjective process, it is important that all students are aware of the general criteria that will be used by coaches / club coordinators / staff in assessing students for E-C activity participation. The following examples are compiled in no particular order, but demonstrate elements of particular note:

- Talent
- Capacity for filling a needed team/club role
- Potential for development
- Attitude
- Support of class/teammates
- Eagerness to learn
- Dedication to individual and team/group improvement
- Commitment to academics

### **Nutrition for students participating in E-C Activities:**

Parents are strongly encouraged whenever possible to provide your child (ren) with daily lunches and snacks prepared from home. Proper nutrition every two hours like fruits, vegetables, breads, meats, cheeses, hardboiled eggs, granola bars, and plenty of water will enhance your child's academic and extra-curricular performance. In addition, this includes a snack to be eaten within 15 minutes after the conclusion of any daily workouts. This will aid in your child's muscular and skeletal recovery process.

### **After School Extra-curricular Activity Leader Policy (this policy covers Teachers, Coaches, Club Coordinators and Instructors of our various E-C programs)**

MMCA is built on the concept of COMMUNITY. A community shares common values. Its members seek to give as much as they are able for the good of the whole. At MMCA, the Leaders of our After School Extra-curricular Activities will exemplify the same values we are teaching our students. These values are listed in our Student Discipline Policy and include:

1. Respect for ourselves, others and the environment;
2. Honesty;
3. Courtesy and exceptional manners;
4. Empathy for others and respect for differences among people and cultures;
5. Accepting responsibility for personal decisions and actions;
6. Working cooperatively with others, which includes listening, sharing opinions, negotiating, compromising, helping the group reach consensus, and taking a stand;
7. Seeking one's share of the work load;
8. Creating a balance between the needs of individual students and families and the needs of the school population as a whole; and
9. Pride in our school

In addition, all Leaders of our after school extra-curricular activities will

- Go through a background check if they will be working with our students unsupervised;
- Be trained in 1<sup>st</sup> Aid / CPR if they are taking their activity off-campus; and
- Advise the Principal if they suspect any student in their activity has been subjected to child abuse or is involved in the use of a controlled substance.

### **Parents as "spectators" at School-related events Policy**

Parents play a vital role in the success of our program. We encourage positive support of our program in the community as well as within your homes.

- With athletic teams in particular, as well as in other competitive events, there can be some highly stressful situations in our league: intense competition, hostile crowds, and local publicity.
  - i. Knowing this, as coaches we try to remain positive in discussing team issues with your children.
  - ii. We want you to encourage your child, cheer for them, and try to keep things positive.
- Appropriate Behavior
  - i. As parents, you are very closely connected to our school. Because of this it is imperative that you behave in an appropriate manner when you're a spectator. We ask that you:

1. Refrain from complaining to referees, coaches, teachers or coordinators during the E-C event. This includes voicing disapproval from the stands during athletic events or other competitions.
2. Furthermore, we ask that you avoid shouting commands or criticism in the direction of our players during athletic events or other competitions. Often times, your child will pick up on voices / instructions which might contradict instructions given by coaches. This is an unfair situation for players to be in since they want to please both parties.
3. If, at any moment, a particular fan or parent becomes overly vocal or obnoxious in the stands during an athletic event or other competition, the coach has been instructed to take out any player connected to that particular spectator. In this situation, the only person who suffers is the player. We hold our coaches and players to a high standard, and we expect the same of our parents.

**I acknowledge M.M.C.A.'s Student Code of Conduct for Extra-curricular Activities and will agree to follow it.**

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_