Diocese of Bridgeport Catholic Schools
2026-2027 Student-Athlete
Parent/Student Handbook
St. Mark School Amendments and Athletics Code of Conduct

Mission Statement
At St. Mark School, athletics are an extension of our Catholic faith and academic mission. Through sports, we encourage students to develop their God-given talents, demonstrate good sportsmanship, and grow in character, teamwork, and faith. Every practice, game, and interaction is an opportunity to live out the Gospel message.

For Student-Athletes

Play for God's glory. Use your talents with gratitude and always give your best effort.

Show respect. Treat teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials with kindness and fairness.

Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Celebrate with gratitude and accept losses with dignity.

Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Refrain from negative talk, taunting, or unsportsmanlike behavior.

Encourage your teammates. Support one another and build each other up.

Be responsible. Arrive on time, care for equipment, and represent St. Mark School proudly at all times.

Students and parents should recognize that participation in our athletics program is not a right of all students, but rather a privilege to those who possess the character, disposition, cooperative spirit, and desire to represent the St. Mark School community in a favorable way. By joining the St. Mark School Athletics Program, a student becomes a representative of his/her team and of St. Mark School.

Initials: _____ **Sportsmanship**
All student-athletes are expected to represent St. Mark School in an exemplary manner. Student-athletes are expected to display the best of Catholic values, morals, courtesy, and manners to all officials, coaches, opposing coaches, players, and spectators. At all times good sportsmanship is the rule, not the exception. The consequence for unsportsmanlike conduct during a practice or game will be at the discretion of the

athletic leadership and coach at that time with subsequent investigation and disciplinary action by the principal. This can range from sitting out at practice to a one-game suspension. In extreme cases when an athlete has been ejected from a game, multi-game suspensions and dismissal from the team may be appropriate.

Initials: _____ **Attendance**

A student-athlete must be in school for a **full-day** to attend or participate in any after-school activities including athletic practices, games, and as a spectator at games or tournaments. A student-athlete will not be allowed to attend or participate in a practice or contest the day he/she is absent from school unless he/she has received prior authorization from the principal.

All student-athletes must recognize the commitment made to a team. One is expected to attend all practices and games. If one cannot attend a practice or game, the coach MUST BE notified in advance. If practice is missed during a week without a valid reason, **that player cannot start** in the upcoming game.

Initials: _____ **Student-Athlete Behavior Expectations**

A student-athlete is expected to demonstrate and encourage behaviors that reflect good sportsmanship. If behavior infractions occur, student-athletes may face both school and athletic consequences. If a student does not meet the expected behaviors in the classroom or school environment, it will be the principal's decision whether the student will be eligible for upcoming games.

Player ejection will receive a minimum of a 1 game suspension to be enforced for the next game. The offending player's school principal will receive written notification. If such conduct continues, the Diocese and/or principal reserve the right to remove the offending player from the team roster.

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Our Commitment

As members of the St. Mark School community, we pledge to uphold this Code of Conduct. Together, we will ensure that all athletic events reflect the mission of our school and the teachings of our Catholic faith.

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." – 1 Corinthians 10:31

I have read the 2026 -2027 Diocese of Bridgeport Catholic Schools Student-Athlete Parent/Student Handbook, St. Mark School Amendments, and Athletics Code of Conduct and agree to adhere to the code of conduct as stated.

*Student-Athlete Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Team: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Team: _____

**one per student-athlete*