



## Saint Mary's Schools PreK-12

50 Richland Street  
Worcester, MA 01610

Phone: (508) 753-0484 - Elementary School  
Phone: (508) 753-1170 - Junior/Senior High School  
www.stmarysworcester.org

# ATHLETIC PARENTAL CONSENT FORM 2017-2018

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the sport(s) of which you intend to try out for:

<u>Boys Sports Offered</u>			<u>Girls Sports Offered:</u>		
Fall: Soccer	Winter: Basketball	Spring: Baseball	Fall: Soccer Volleyball	Winter: Basketball	Spring Softball

**Parent and Student-Athlete:** Review this contract carefully (front and back), complete information as requested, affix signatures, and return the completed contract/permission form to the school.

### **Stipulations**

The student-athlete and his or her parent/guardian have received and read the *Student-Parent Athletic Participation Information*. Based on this information, the student and parent/guardian understand and stipulate to the following:

1. I/We understand the eligibility regulations required for participation.
2. I/We affirm that the student has satisfied all of the academic eligibility requirements.
3. I/We understand that participation of ineligible players will result in individual and team sanctions, including forfeits for the team.
4. I/We affirm that the student will exert effort to maintain a high level of academic achievement.
5. I/We understand there is potential for serious, catastrophic, or life-threatening injury associated with participation in a sport.
6. I/We affirm that the student will not participate in hazing at any time, of any nature.
7. I/We, as a participant or spectator, will exhibit a high level of sportsmanship at contests.
8. I/We will follow appropriate procedures in communicating concerns to coaches.
9. I/We affirm that the student will abide by all team and participation standards.
10. I/We affirm that the student will not use steroids, illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco unless medically prescribed for a specific condition or illness.
11. I/We affirm that we will either participate in the St. Mary's Booster Program sharing time and actively be involved in fundraisers or opt out with a \$200 per sport payment.
12. I/We affirm that we have read the concussion policy and also understand the requirements of both parent and athlete training on concussions.
13. I/We affirm that we will pick up our student-athlete on time at the conclusion of practices and games.

**Permission to Participate**

I/We hereby authorize and consent to our child's participation in interscholastic athletics and sports. We understand that the sport(s) in which our child will be participating is potentially dangerous, and that physical injuries may occur to our child requiring emergency medical care and treatment. I/We assume the risk of injury to our child that may occur in an athletic activity.

In consideration of the acceptance of our child by St. Mary's Schools in its athletic program, and the benefits derived by our child from participation, I/we agree to release and hold harmless the Diocese of Worcester, its members, the Superintendent of Schools, Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish and St. Mary's Schools, administration, all coaches, and any and all other of their agents, servants, and/or employees and agree to indemnify each of them from any claims, costs, suits, actions, judgment, and expenses arising from our child's participation in interscholastic athletics.

I/We hereby give our consent and authorize St. Mary's Schools and its agents, servants, and/or employees to consent on our behalf and on behalf of our child, to emergency medical care and treatment in the event we are unable to be notified by reasonable attempts of the need for such emergency medical care and treatment.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, and I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent's name printed) (student's name printed)

have carefully reviewed the *Student-Parent Athletic Participation Information* and the *Student-Parent Athletic Participation Contract and Parent Permission Form*. I/We understand the conditions for participation in St. Mary's Schools interscholastic athletic program, and we understand there are inherent risks associated with participation.

I/We agree as follows:

- My son/daughter has my/our\* permission to participate in athletics at St. Mary's Schools.
- I/We understand and conform to all of the statements in the Stipulations portion of the Contract.
- I/We understand and will abide by the policies set forth in the Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Pledge.

**Select one:**

\_\_\_\_ I/We will actively participate in fundraising opportunities for athletics and share my/our time to support the athletic programs in which my child participates in conjunction with the St. Mary's Boosters.

\_\_\_\_ I/We opt out of actively participating in fundraising opportunities and sharing my/our time to support the athletic programs. I understand our FACTS Tuition account will be assessed an additional \$200.00 per sport during the season in which my child participates.

Please affix signatures below and return to the school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian      Date      \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student      Date

*\*When parents are divorced and have legal joint custody, the signatures of both parents are required.*

# STUDENT – PARENT ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION INFORMATION AND PARENT PERMISSION FORM

## Philosophy

Interscholastic athletics supplement and support the academic mission of the school system and assist students in their growth and development. Athletics assists in promoting the importance of teamwork, effort, goals, and commitment. Interscholastic athletics is highly competitive, but winning is not the primary measure of success. Sportsmanship, respect for participants, and dignity in the face of adversity are more important than the outcome of the contest. All athletes do not perform at the same level, but all can demonstrate effort, dedication, and fair play.

## Sportsmanship

An important mission of the interscholastic athletics program is to teach and reinforce values relating to sportsmanship, competition, and fair play. It is expected that team personnel, parents, and spectators respect this mission by exhibiting appropriate behavior at athletic events. Countywide team and school awards are presented annually to schools whose coaches, players, and fans, demonstrate a high degree of sportsmanship.

## Student Eligibility Requirements

Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible to participate. Participation of ineligible students shall result in individual and team sanctions, including forfeits for the team.

1. All participants must have a valid MIAA physical evaluation form completed. These forms are valid for 13 months.
2. Students must submit a *Student/Parent Athletics Participation Contract* before being allowed to participate in practices or contests.
3. Students must not have any two grades lower than a 65. Academic eligibility is determined on the date report cards are issued, and remains until the next report card is issued. Fall participants must have no final grades lower than a 65 from the previous school year.
4. Students must arrive by 9:00AM to participate in a practice or contest on that day. If the principal or designee grants an excused absence in advance for a prescheduled activity, or an unforeseen emergency, the student may participate on that day.
5. In addition to other infractions, a student may be suspended or removed from a team for unexcused absences or chronic tardiness to classes or team practices.
6. Students may not participate in more than one interscholastic sport in one season.
7. A student may not participate when he/she is serving an in-school or out-of-school suspension. The student becomes eligible to participate on the next school day following the suspension.

## Assumption of Risk

Participation in interscholastic athletic activities often includes intense competition and poses the potential for serious, catastrophic, or life-threatening injury. Participants and parents are urged to consider that there are inherent risks and hazards associated with athletic participation. Risks vary from sport-to-sport and can occur under direct supervision and with use of proper safety equipment.

## Hazing and Bullying

Hazing is prohibited at all times. Hazing involves any act that subjects teammates to mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. In some instances hazing constitutes a criminal act. Hazing may lead to immediate dismissal from a team. Bullying is strictly prohibited as found in St. Mary's handbook policy.

## Communication with Coaches

Parents should not attempt to address coaches immediately after games and practices. Coaches have many post game/practice responsibilities, including supervision of players. Also, the post game/practice period is often emotionally charged, and not conducive to productive

discussion. If a parent feels a need to communicate a concern, the parent should contact the coach and/or athletic director to arrange a later meeting.

### **Participation Standards**

Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege. Accordingly, students must meet certain standards in order to earn the privilege of participation. At a minimum, the following standards are required of all student-athletes.

1. Exhibit public behavior that will reflect positively on the team, school, and community. Athletes should not be engaged in any activity that would result in police intervention.
2. Exhibit responsible, respectful, and trustworthy behavior to teammates and the coach.
3. Exert efforts to maintain a high level of academic achievement.
4. Comply with all team, school, and school system rules, regulations, and policies.
5. Exhibit appropriate behavior at all team and school-related activities.
6. Attend all team functions unless ill or given prior permission to be absent by the coach.
7. Respect and comply with decisions made by the coach and athletic department.
8. Respect calls and decisions made by game officials.
9. Display good sportsmanship at all times.
10. Report to the coach any issues or developments that may affect eligibility status.

### **Illegal Substances/Alcohol/Tobacco/Steroids/Controlled Substances**

All students are expected to refrain from the use of all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, drugs, and alcohol, both at school and during non-school times. Parents are responsible to oversee and monitor their student's behavior while off school grounds and are expected to take appropriate, decisive action to identify and prevent non-prescribed use of these substances by their student.

St. Mary's Schools' staff, including coaches, and administrators are charged with the task of alerting students to the harmful effects of tobacco products, drugs, and alcohol and to take corrective action upon verification of student use of these items. The commitment to tobacco-free, drug-free, and alcohol-free behavior is especially important for those students who represent St. Mary's Schools in any school sponsored extracurricular activity. The reputation of our school and the ultimate safety and welfare of our students are jeopardized if the commitment is broken. For this reason, the St. Mary's Schools Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco Pledge has been developed.

Your pledge will be in effect for the entire school year. Each student who wishes to participate in an extracurricular activity during the school year must have signed a pledge with all required signatures submitted to the athletic director. Students will not be permitted to begin an activity/sport until the pledge is signed and returned.

#### **The Pledge**

I agree to refrain from the possession, use, and distribution of any tobacco products, drugs (unless prescribed), alcohol, and controlled substances, both on and off school grounds, during the school year. If it is verified that I have used any of these substances, I understand that the following consequences will apply:

#### **Consequences for tobacco:**

First Offense: exclusion from the next scheduled game or non-athletic extracurricular activity.

Second Offense: a) exclusion from 2 games

b) conference with the student, athletic director or sponsor/coach, and parent

#### **Consequences for drugs and alcohol:**

First Offense:

(a) removal from all teams for the next consecutive interscholastic contests (regular season and tournament) totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport.

(b) referral to the guidance counselor for drug/alcohol assessment and follow-up

(c) conference with the student, athletic director or coach, and parent

Second Offense in the same school year

- a) suspension from all teams totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport.
- b) (b) referral to the guidance counselor for drug/alcohol assessment and follow-up
- c) (c) conference with the student, athletic director or coach, and parent

I also realize that any possession, use, or distribution of any of these substances on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity will result in additional serious disciplinary consequences as outlined in the St. Mary's Schools Student/ Parent Handbook.

A student who is ineligible due to violating the pledge may tryout for the next sport season, but the consequence must be met before he/she competes in the activity.

Ineligibility does not include summer days. If there are penalties left at the end of the school year, the penalty will carry over to the first day of the next school year.

### **Steroids**

Athletes who take steroids to enhance performance and muscular appearance are involved in a dangerous activity. The drugs they believe give them a competitive edge can also cause serious side effects. Anabolic steroids are chemical derivatives of testosterone, a male sex hormone. As such, they enable athletes to increase muscle bulk and improve performance.

Major side effects from abusing anabolic steroids can include liver tumors and cancer, jaundice (yellowish pigmentation of skin, tissues, and body fluids), fluid retention, high blood pressure, increases in LDL (bad cholesterol), and decreases in HDL (good cholesterol). Other side effects include kidney tumors, severe acne, and trembling. Aggression and other psychiatric side effects may result from abuse of anabolic steroids.

If the use of steroids by an athlete is verified, then it will be treated as a violation of the St. Mary's Schools Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Pledge.

### **Dismissal From or Quitting a Team**

Once an athlete begins practice in a sport and his/her membership is terminated for a reason other than being cut due to lack of ability, he/she is ineligible to participate in any other sport during that season unless he/she is given prior approval by the athletic director and/or the administration after a thorough investigation of the case with all involved parties.

Once an athlete is on a team and voluntarily quits that team, he/she is ineligible to participate in any other sport during that season unless he/she is given prior approval by the athletic director and/or the administration.

### **Participation on Outside Teams**

While participating on a school team, athletes are permitted to participate in the same sport outside of the school during the sport season. The outside participation may not conflict with the team schedule of the school. This includes practices, games, and playoffs.

### **Inclement Weather**

In the event that schools are closed or dismissed early due to inclement weather conditions or other reasons all school activities are canceled. These activities include practices and contests. If teams are participating in a contest or tournament in any other jurisdiction or any other facility and St. Mary's Schools have been closed or dismissed early, the teams may not participate on that day.

### **Social Media**

Social media and blogs are considered an extension of how you represent yourself. Pictures and/or information included on such sites will be considered the truth. Any student who has this information or acts/speaks in a derogatory way on personal webpages or blogs will be held to the same standards as if acting in person.

### **Activity Probation**

At the discretion of the principal, an athlete may be placed on athletic probation in lieu of or in addition to other penalties when an athlete is involved in a significant breach of the general policies of the Athletic Handbook. If a second breach of general policy occurs within one calendar year of being placed on athletic probation, the athlete will be suspended from participation in St. Mary's athletic program for a length of time to be determined by the principal.

### **General Discipline Policies and Procedures**

The rules, policies, and procedures addressed in the Athletic Handbook does not cover every possible infraction. Any infractions not listed will be covered by St. Mary's Schools policy. Consequences for athletes not adhering to any rule, policy, or procedure will be at the discretion of the principal. Our policies are derived from the MIAA handbook.

### **Booster Club**

As with many schools, parents and students need to actively share time and treasure to make our athletic teams successful. Our teams cannot function without parents contributing of time, and actively participating in athletic fundraisers. All parents of student athletes must be active members of our School Booster Club. The St. Mary's Boosters are charged with the mission of raising money and giving time to our athletic programs, such as through working the concession booth, selling tickets and etc. Parents who cannot give time to our program throughout the year, will be required to pay a \$200 fee per sport. Students are not eligible for our sports teams without this parent requirement being satisfied. Parents who do not fulfill time and treasure commitment will be assessed through FACTS the \$200.00 per sport.