# **Guerin Catholic Athletic Parent Agreement**

Guerin Catholic's philosophy of educating the whole child applies to athletics and sports as well as to their academic and faith-based life. Athletics are simply an extension of the classroom and will require some of the same commitment, preparation and rigor. As your children become involved in the athletic programs at Guerin Catholic High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives - both uplifting and moments of great adversity.

### Parent/Coach Relationship

Guerin Catholic will seek to build bridges with parents of student-athletes. Both parenting and coaching are challenging vocations and we view it as a partnership. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to the student-athletes. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand the expectations that are placed on your child.

### **Coaches Roles**

Coaches have been hired at Guerin Catholic to form and develop your child under the mission of the school. We are proud that our coaches have the opportunity to work with your children. Coaches are expected to work toward building trusting, honest and welcoming relationships with members of their program. It's important to remember that as your children experience athletics at Guerin Catholic, coaches have the best interests in mind of your child and it's our hope we can work together to reach the best possible outcome.

## Student-Athlete Roles

As coaches help form and develop your children, your children also bear responsibility to communicate effectively, be great teammates and work toward finding solutions that can help benefit the team. While the journey of growing as a student-athlete can provide both great success and challenging obstacles, your children are expected to be a positive member of the team, both on and off the court.

#### **Parent Roles**

We encourage parents to allow their children to work through issues on their team independently. While this may not appear to solve short term solutions, it's our belief that long term success may be cultivated from these times on a high school athletic

team. Parents should allow the process to play out while understanding that coaches, teammates and staff are "all on the same team."

# Communication

- It is important to understand that student athletes can face adversity in being a part of a team. A successful experience is always filled with great moments but also times that challenge a child and their families. At these times, face-to-face discussion (not texting and emailing) with the coach is encouraged.
- 2. If you have questions about your child's experience on a team, please follow this protocol:
  - a. Child talks with coach and coach gives feedback
  - b. Parent mentors child at home and attempts other ways to improve experience
  - c. If at that point, there is no resolution, then the parent may reach out to the coach to discuss. The student-athlete should be present for all discussions.
- 3. Communication should not occur between parents and coaches during practices, games or immediately after a game.
- 4. We encourage communication that coaches need to know family and transportation issues, transportation and ways to help your child improve. Communication that includes playing time, lineups or any other student-athletes on the team is not appropriate.
- 5. Though we understand your desire to talk with the Director of Athletics or Administration, we ask that coaches and student-athletes attempt to resolve the issue internally first. This is the best case scenario for all parties involved.

# Parent or Guardian Agreement

- 1. Pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement to my child and his or her team
- 2. Pledge to provide positive support and encouragement to the visiting team, their coaches and school
- 3. Maintain positive behavior and attitude at all athletic contests
- 4. Respect the position and professionalism of the game official
- 5. Refrain from the use of foul language
- 6. Refrain from yelling criticism at my child and his or her coach or team

- 7. Refrain from making derogatory comments to players, other parents, game officials or school administrators
- 8. Refrain from interfering with the coach's management of the program
- 9. Let the coach be responsible for my son or daughter during practice, games and team-related activities
- 10. Assist in providing for students' safety and welfare
- 11. Sign and submit, with accurate information, all required student-athlete handbook forms to the Athletic Department
- 12. Do not attempt to circumvent any rules or guidelines of Guerin Catholic School or the Indiana High School Athletic Association.
- I/we, the parent(s) or guardian of the student-athlete, acknowledge that I/we have read the terms of this Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct. I/we agree to conduct myself/ourselves according to the terms of this Code of Conduct. I/we also understand and agree that any violation of this code of conduct may be cause for suspension, dismissal or permanent expulsion from future athletic contest. I have read, understand and agree to the parent/guardian code of conduct.