



CAIMS Sports Code of Conduct

The primary purpose of CAIMS sport events is to provide a safe and supportive environment for our athletes to play in a competitive setting. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for all adults and athletes attending these events to ensure a safe, positive, and encouraging environment for our student-athletes.

Coach

As a coach, you are an educator first. Your leadership sets the tone for the entire event.

- **Prioritise Well-being:** Place the physical, emotional, and social well-being of all student-athletes above the desire to win.
- **Model Sportsmanship:** Treat officials, opposing coaches, parents, and players with respect. Accept referee decisions gracefully, even when you disagree.
- **Encourage Inclusivity:** Ensure fair opportunity and positive reinforcement for all players, regardless of their skill level.
- **Know the Rules:** Familiarise yourself with the specific tournament or sport code rules for each event, and teach them to your team.
- **Maintain Professional Boundaries:** Ensure all interactions with students, parents, and officials remain professional, constructive, and supportive.

Parents & Spectators

As a parent or spectator, your role is to support and encourage, not to coach or referee from the sidelines.

- **Cheer Positively:** Focus on applauding good plays and effort from *both* teams. Avoid negative cheering, jeering, or mocking.
- **Let the Coaches Coach:** Avoid shouting instructions to players during the game. Conflicting instructions cause confusion and stress for the children.
- **Respect the Officials:** Match officials are often volunteers or students themselves. Do not question, harass, or verbally abuse officials before, during, or after a match.

- **Model Emotional Control:** Remember that children learn best by example. Praise grit and sportsmanship over the final score.
- **Respect the School Environment:** Follow all host-venues rules, including designated seating areas, parking restrictions, and zero-tolerance policies for alcohol, smoking/vaping, and foul language.

Student-Athletes

As a representative of your school, you have the privilege and responsibility of showcasing true sportsmanship. Your behavior on and off the field defines your team.

- **Play Hard, Play Fair:** Give 100% effort in every event and game, but always play within the spirit and the rules of the sport.
- **Respect the Officials:** Accept all officials' decisions without arguing, gesturing, or complaining. If you are the team captain, speak to officials calmly and respectfully.
- **Honor the Opposition:** Treat your opponents with respect. Shake hands before and after the match, and never engage in "trash-talk" or taunting.
- **Support Your Teammates:** Be a positive teammate. Encourage others when they make mistakes, and celebrate their successes. Winning and losing are team efforts.
- **Represent Your School Proudly:** Remember that you are an ambassador for your school. Your behavior in transit, on the sidelines, and in the locker rooms should be exemplary.

Unacceptable Behaviors (Zero Tolerance)

The following behaviors will result in immediate removal from the event, potential disciplinary action from school leadership, and/or suspension from future fixtures:

Verbal Abuse & Bullying: Shouting insults, using profanity, taunting opponents, or directing hate speech at anyone.

Dangerous Play: Intentional physical aggression or attempting to injure another player outside the rules of the sport.

Sideline or Referee Confrontations: Swearing at officials, refusing to leave the field when subbed/carded, or confronting opposing teams post-match.

Resolution Process

If an issue or disagreement arises during an interschool event, the following multi-sport protocol should be used:

Step	Action	Responsibility
1. Cool Down	Wait 24 hours before raising a formal complaint regarding a game incident (unless it involves immediate safety).	Parents / Coaches
2. School-to-School	Parents should never approach the host school directly. Issues must be reported to your own school's Sports Coordinator.	Parents to School
3. Official Review	Sports Coordinators will then connect with the CAIMS representative, who will liaise with any other parties involved to resolve the issue. Due to short seasons and a changing student demographic, a first infraction will result in a written warning. A second instance will result in the exclusion of the involved parent, coach, or player from subsequent events.	Sports Coordinators to CAIMS Management