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**PLAYER**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

**Introduction**

Participation in the Saints Baseball program is a privilege. Each player is a representative of their own team, the Saints Baseball program as well as the Xavier Catholic Schools name and should act accordingly. The program standards of behavior and expectations for all players are expressed below.

**General Standards**

* A player is committed to Saints Baseball for the duration of the team’s calendar season. Unless permission from the team’s head coach or the Saints Baseball program, a player is not allowed to be on another team’s roster.
* A player should report directly to the head coach of their team.
* The Saints Baseball program reserves the right to release any player for reasons including but not limited to the following:
	+ Absenteeism
	+ Poor attitude, work ethic, and/or coachability
	+ Lack of sportsmanship by player and/or their family
	+ Severe or gross misconduct outside of Saints Baseball activities
* Acknowledge that it is the decision of the coaching staff regarding playing position(s), playing time, etc. depending upon the age level and team designation.

**Behavior & Ethics Standards**

* Abide by all Saints Baseball program rules and regulations and those of participating leagues, tournaments, and national associations.
* Serve as a positive role model by demonstrating fair play, sportsmanship, and encouragement.
	+ Self-indulgence by players such as pouting, tossing helmets or bats is not tolerated.
	+ Foul language and profanity are not allowed at any time.
* Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sporting activities.
	+ Show respect towards the coaching staff and teammates as well as league officials, tournament directors, umpires, and opponents at all times.
	+ Positive support. Do not ridicule or yell at your teammates for making a mistake or for losing a game.
	+ Negative comments or ridicule of another player, family, coach, etc. through social media is not tolerated.
* Use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs is not tolerated at any time.

**Practice & Game Standards**

* Arrive properly equipped and on time.
	+ Hats are to be worn forwards at all times.
	+ Undershirts and jerseys are to be tucked in.
	+ Unless otherwise expressed by the head coach, wear baseball pants, hat, and cleats.
* Each player is responsible for the care of their equipment (e.g. helmet, glove, bat, etc.)
* Give your best all of the time – effort, attitude, coachability.
* With some exceptions, attendance at practices and games is not optional.
	+ Missing a practice or game requires the notification of the head in advance of the absence.
* Cleaning of the field and dugout after each use is required.

**Rule Enforcement**

These standards and expectations are in place to ensure the quality development of each individual player and team overall while maintaining the integrity of the organization. Players violating these standards and expectations will be reprimanded in the following manner depending upon the specific situation:

* Formal written warning issued and documented
* Suspension from attending practices, games, and/or tournaments
* Termination from Saints Baseball program

Ultimately, violations will be handled by a combination of the head coach, board of directors, and age group representative where applicable and necessary. However, the board of directors has the right to bypass the above process and administer any such disciplinary action depending upon the severity of the violation.