

Meyerland Middle School

Student Athlete Contract



*The Meyerland PVA Middle School Athletic program has grown in levels of respectability, skill set and expectations. Therefore, to be a Meyerland PVA Middle School Student Athlete is a **privilege** that is earned and taken seriously. Upon making an athletic team, the guidelines in this constitution must be followed. You, the Athlete and your parent(s) should take care to read and understand the program's constitution, expectations, and commitments prior to tryouts. If the policies outlined in the constitution are not followed, an athlete may be benched or removed from a team at any time.*

An agreement acknowledgment is required to be returned and signed by the student athlete and parent before the athlete may participate during the season.

MISSION STATEMENT:

- To promote and uphold school spirit,
- To develop a sense of good sportsmanship among students at Meyerland PVA Middle School, while building better relationships between schools during all athletic events.
- To actively support all sports, both at the 7th & 8th grade levels.
- To develop a sense of good sportsmanship among students, staff and the community.
- To work as a team and set an example as an exemplary school leader.
- To build better relationships between the students, the schools and the community.

Educational Value to Meyerland PVA Middle School

Being a Meyerland PVA Middle School Student Athlete offers a unique opportunity for personal growth, leadership and involvement in diverse activities. The attitude, dedication, and enthusiasm of the athlete are just as important as the skills involved in playing a sport.

Being a Meyerland PVA Middle School student athlete, you are committed to the highest level of athleticism, performance, self-discipline, respect for the school and others, personal exemplary conduct and the performances of all responsibilities related to the pursuit of school spirit and pride. Furthermore, student athletes must demonstrate a proven ability to balance academic requirements and demands with co-curricular and personal activities.

By being a student athlete, you are accepting the fact that your actions are more prominent than those not associated with such an activity. Because of this, exemplary behavior is always mandatory, anywhere in the community and at all schools' functions where you are a representative for Meyerland PVA Middle School.

CODE OF ETHICS

- Emphasize the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, integrity, accountability and fair play as noted by the UIL
- Abide by all school, district, UIL, TEA and National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)
- Show courtesy to all visiting teams, competitors, fans and officials.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of all sports officials and coaches.

Meyerland Athletics STANDARDS

- Student Athletes understand that teamwork and maintenance of discipline is the key to the success of any athletic program.

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- Student Athletes are dedicated to promoting spirit, enthusiasm, and a positive winning attitude through example.
- Student Athletes take seriously the responsibility to always represent Meyerland PVA Middle School positively and respectfully.
- These standards are required to maintain team morale, team and individual discipline, and effective learning on the playing field and in the classroom.
- Student Athletes understand that participating in a sport is voluntary, not mandatory. **It is a privilege, not a right.**

ELIGIBILITY

- Student must maintain a 70 in all classes to remain in good standings.
- Students who are academically suspended will not be allowed to participate at the following games/performances (including games, pep rallies, community events or competitions).
- Members must maintain good conduct marks, attendance, and class performance during their time on the team and tryouts.
- All practices, games, and performances are mandatory, unless you have approved permission to miss.
- All members are expected to participate in fundraisers.
- Failure to complete the season due to disciplinary action or personal decision, may affect your eligibility to try out for athletics for the following school year.

CONSEQUENCE POLICY

Student Athletes must adhere to rules and regulations to maintain participation eligibility as well as maintain satisfactory conduct (E or S) or higher and 70 (C) or higher in each class. When an athlete has earned multiple infractions, they will be benched for a week. If an athlete has a major disciplinary action, they will be on probation until further notice and a meeting with the parent and administrator may be required.

Benched is defined as an athlete who is still eligible to participate but has reached required number of infractions and must continue to come to practice but cannot play until the athlete has served a full week from when benched was commenced. The athlete must dress out and sit by the coach during the entire game.

Probation is defined as an athlete is ineligible to participate due to a major infraction. The athlete is prohibited from coming to practice and cannot perform at any activities until a meeting with the coach, administrator and parent is held. The length of probation is determined by the coach. The athlete will remain on probation until a decision on proper consequences is reached.

If an athlete QUITS their respected sport after the season begins, it may affect his/her eligibility to try out for a sport the following school year, and the determination of eligibility will be made on a case-by-case basis. Also depending on the circumstances, parents may not receive a refund of monies paid to date if their child chooses to quit the sport after the season has started.

LOWER-LEVEL INFRACTIONS

- Tardy to practice or game without an excuse
- Arriving to practice late or game
- Electronic policy violation (Cell phone, ear buds, smart watch not in backpack)
- Chromebook violation (Not bringing a charged Chromebook daily)

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- Leaving practice early or before dismissal by coach. This includes leaving a game before the team huddle.

HIGHER LEVEL INFRACTIONS

- Unexcused tardy from practice or game
- Unexcused absence from practice or game
- Using profanity, excessive displays of affection, unsportsmanlike conduct while in uniform (including cheer wear, warm-ups, uniform etc.)
- Disrespectful behavior or insubordination including falsifying information at practice or games
- Receiving poor grades (F's) or poor conduct (P or U) in class will also result in the student athlete being benched and suspended from performing at any practice or game
- Academic Dishonest
- In or Out of School Suspension – requires a meeting with administrator, coach, student athlete and parent with a final decision.

DISMISSAL FROM MPVA ATHLETICS

The following will result in automatic dismissal from ANY sport. If you are dismissed from the sport, there will be no refunds for monies paid to date to participate in the specified athletic program.

- Illicit/Inappropriate behavior recorded on social media
- Smoking or Vaping
- Possession of drug paraphernalia or use of illegal substances
- Mutual Combat (Fighting)
- Theft
- Bullying or Cyberbullying
- Any Level III or IV of Student Misconduct as defined by the Houston ISD Student Code of Conduct

Please keep this copy of the Meyerland PVA Middle School Student Athlete Contract for your reference.

PRACTICE/GAME PROCEDURES

PRACTICE NIGHTS: Coaches will give athletes a practice schedule each month so parents will know pick-up times. Coaches will also inform parents of appropriate sport specific practice attire. If there are any changes in the schedule, athletes will be given prior notice so that other arrangements can be made. If there are ride problems, please try to arrange alternate plans beforehand. There are no consequences for student-athletes who miss a practice for absences due to school-sponsored trips, other academic activities required by the school, or religious holidays. For all other missed practices, the consequence is at the discretion of the coach; in such cases, consequences may include dismissal from the team. Students are expected to be picked up within 20 minutes at the end of practice. Coaches remain at school until all athletes are picked up. Please be respectful of their time so they may spend time with their families.

GAME MORNING/NIGHTS: Athletes will be given appropriate pick-up times to give parents who are unable to attend games. Because games tend to be unpredictable in length, we will allow athletes to use the phone, if needed, when we return. We ask that phone calls be kept short. Since many games are over after dark, coaches make it a practice to remain at school until all athletes have been picked up.

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Because of this, parents are respectfully asked to pick up their athletes as soon as possible. There are no consequences for student-athletes who miss a game for absences due to school-sponsored trips, other academic activities required by the school, or religious holidays. For all other missed games, the consequence is at the discretion of the coach; in such cases, consequences may include dismissal from the team.

Meyerland Athletic Guide for Parents

Welcome to the Meyerland PVA Middle School Athletic Program. We are excited to have you and your child a part of our program. The purpose of this guide is to facilitate your child's participation in our program.

Expectations of a MPVAMS Athletic Parent

- Be supportive and reinforce the lessons taught by the coach
- Read, understand, discuss, and most of all monitor the contract.
- Attend all scheduled parent meetings
- **BE POSITIVE!!** Athletes and coaches need encouragement in good times and tough or challenging times.

Coach & Parent Communication

Communication between parents and coach is a necessary part of a strong program. We must make a pledge to communicate all information to each other as soon as possible. Please have an up-to-date email on file, as electronic communication is sometimes quickest and best. We ask the student athletes to be sure to communicate information from practice to you. Please check with your child daily, after practice to ensure that all-important information is communicated. The coach will establish a communication platform, whether that be email, phone calls, or chat apps such as SportsU, GroupMe, etc.

As a coach, their responsibility is communicating the following to you:

- Expectations they have for the athletes as well as the team.
- Location and times of all schedule practices and games.
- Procedures taken if your student athlete is injured during practice or games.
- Discipline that may result from you, the parent, for noncompliance with the contract.

We strive to create and maintain a program of student athletes who have a strong sense of teamwork, responsibility and community service.

As parents, your responsibility is communicating the following:

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
- Specific concern regarding a coach's expectations.
- Any violations made by your athlete as relating to the MPVA Athletic contract
- All concerns should be expressed directly to the coach, first!

The following are appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach:

- The treatment of your student athlete mentally and physically.
- Ways to help your student athlete improve
- Concerns about your student athlete's behavior in and out of practice or games.

If you have a concern that affects the team or a team issue, please contact the head coach, first. Then if the issue is not resolved, contact the MPVA Athletic Coordinator, Coach Aust: waust@houstonisd.org

Parent Representation

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Parents are expected to maintain proper behavior during all games, performances and competitions. Parents are representatives of our team as much as the athletes themselves.

ATHLETICS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. THESE PRIVILEGES MAY BE REVOKED &/OR RESTRICTED FOR VIOLATIONS OF ANY OR ALL OF THE STATEMENTS IN THIS AGREEMENT. ANY VIOLATION COULD RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM A SPORT AND POSSIBLE DISMISSAL FROM THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT MEYERLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL.

Parents (P) and Student Athlete(S): Please read and initial to every statement and sign at the bottom of this form.

I _____, agree to the following regulations established for athletes participating in the Meyerland Middle School Athletic Program.

ACADEMICS- Meyerland athletes are considered as students first on our campus and are expected to maintain passing grades in all subjects. Failure to maintain passing grades at report times could result in being ineligible for competition. Therefore, student athletes will turn in a grade check each week as required by the coaching staff. A parent needs to sign the grade check form.

Initials: P: _____ : S: _____

Conduct – Student athletes will conduct themselves at all times (on & off campus) in a manner that will be complimentary to themselves, their family, their team, their school, and their community. Any action(s) that are considered inappropriate could result in campus and athletic disciplinary action, and possible removal from the team and/or athletics.

Initials: P: _____ : S: _____

LANGUAGE: Student athletes will use language that is proper and acceptable to our society. Student Athletes will refrain from using profanity, making any disrespectful, derogatory, and/or degrading remarks, statements and/or gestures toward any person(s) or groups(s). This includes social media posts.

Initials: P: _____ : S: _____

RESPECT: Student athletes will show respect to others at all times. The student athlete agrees to accept the decisions of the officials, coaches, teachers and all persons in a position of authority. If the student athlete has any questions pertaining to any decision, a conference is to be requested and scheduled at an appropriate time.

Initials: P: _____ : S: _____

ATTENDANCE: Student athletes will make a sincere effort to establish a perfect attendance record at Meyerland Middle School. Student athletes are to attend school the day of a contest & the day following competition. Practice attendance is mandatory. Roll is checked daily. If a practice must be missed, the student athlete must inform the head coach of the sport. The practice is to be made up prior to participating in the next competition.

Initials: P: _____ : S: _____

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Contract Acknowledgement

Student Athlete:

I have read the Meyerland PVM School Student Athlete Contract in its entirety and understand and agree to adhere to the rules under which I will be held accountable and the procedures I will be expected to follow. I am also aware that this handbook can be found on the Meyerland Athletic Website. I will follow these rules and wish to be part of a great tradition, "Meyerland Greyhound Athletics."

Student Athlete Name (Print)

Student Athlete Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian:

I have read the Meyerland PVM School Student Athlete Contract in its entirety and understand the rules under which my child would be held accountable and the procedures he/she would be expected to follow. procedures I will be expected to follow. I am also aware that this handbook can be found on the Meyerland Athletic Website. I will follow these rules and wish to be part of a great tradition, "Meyerland Greyhound Athletics."

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date