

Points of Emphasis

2019-20

for AACPS Athletics

- ✓ THE STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE
- ✓ HIGH EXPECTATIONS
- ✓ GAME DAY BEHAVIORS



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THE STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE

AACPS Athletics believes that all adults associated with our program should purposefully foster a positive experience for each and every student-athlete in their program.

- Athletic departments are expected to recognize the academic, community service, sportsmanship, and athletic accomplishments of student-athletes in their programs.
- Athletic departments are expected to encourage student-athletes to participate in multiple high school sports.
- Athletic departments are expected to create an environment where all student-athletes are treated and valued equitably as part of the overall program.
- Coaches are encouraged to take time in practices to purposefully highlight the positive actions of their student-athletes.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

AACPS Athletics believes that all adults associated with our program should establish and maintain high expectations for themselves, their staff, and their student-athletes.

- Head coaches are expected to clearly communicate and maintain high expectations for themselves and their staff regarding language, tone, dress, and social media presence. We expect head coaches to create a plan for holding their assistant coaches accountable for these high standards.
- Head coaches are expected to clearly communicate and maintain high expectations for their student-athletes regarding behavior in and out of school, language, tone, and social media presence. We expect head coaches to create a plan for holding their student-athletes accountable for these high standards.
- Coaching staffs are asked to purposefully build in time during their season for: (1) teaching life lessons, (2) team-building activities, (3) cross-sport support.
- Practices are expected to be effective and efficient, with assistant coaches actively teaching. Practices should have minimal wait time between activities and include lots of repetition for student-athletes.

GAME DAY BEHAVIORS

AACPS Athletics believes that all adults associated with our program must take responsibility for the behavior of their staff and student-athletes at games/events.

- Coaches are expected to communicate and practice pre and post-game routines with their team prior to the first contest.
- Host and visiting teams are expected to enter, use, and exit facilities with respect, recognizing that the spaces where we compete are shared by many.
- During contests, coaches and student-athletes are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship towards each other and officials. This is especially important when the environment is tense.
- At the end of contests, teams are expected to shake hands and congratulate their opponent in a respectful way.