



## DMS STUDENT-ATHLETE/TEAM/PARENT CONTRACT 2023-2024

Document can be accessed at <https://dms.dyersburgcityschools.org/athleticforms>

Dyersburg Middle School provides a variety of athletic/team opportunities for students to develop, test and display their skills. Participation should result in growth of the athlete/team member, coach, and school in the following areas:

- A) To build a team that progressively works toward fulfilling its potential and models excellence in its performance.
  - 1. To provide opportunities for character refinement for each player. This can occur in a variety of ways, depending upon the individual.
  - 2. Experiencing goal setting and achievement.
  - 3. Demonstrating respect for authority.
  - 4. Learning poise and emotional control under pressure.
  - 5. Showing maximum effort and a desire to improve.
  - 6. Learning leadership skills and taking initiative.
  - 7. Demonstration of loyalty to team goals above individual aspirations.
  - 8. Learning/demonstrating commitment and teamwork. "We" is better than "I".
  - 9. Helping/supporting teammates.

### Student Athletes' Academic Expectations

Each student athlete's/team member's grades will be monitored every 4.5 weeks by the head coach and administration. If a student is making below a 60 in any subject at each check, he/she will be ineligible until they are passing all classes.

- A) Athletes/Managers must finish each nine weeks' grading period with NO scores under a 60. Any athlete who fails a class for a nine weeks period will be placed under academic probation the following nine weeks by administration until adequate improvement is shown. This could include loss of practices and/or games.
- B) If academically ineligible or placed on academic probation, athletes/managers may practice but are not eligible to play or travel to scheduled events.

### Student Athletes' Behavior Expectations

- A) Athletes/managers are expected to:
  - 1. Be ROLE MODELS for the student body.
  - 2. Be cooperative in class.
  - 3. Be respectful to administrators, teachers, staff, students, and school property.
  - 4. Be careful with social media usage and posting. Once posted, it is out there forever and could have implications (including discipline) for the athlete, not only at DMS, but in future endeavors as well. Employers and coaches monitor these sites and past postings have cost students athletic scholarships and jobs.
  - 5. Be respectful to school property. Leave home and visiting locker rooms/bleachers how you found them.
  - 6. Be on their best behavior on trips; Bus/field/gym/locker rooms. Each individual is a representative of Dyersburg Middle School; Represent with pride and upstanding character.
  - 7. Take care of their equipment and space.
  - 8. **ALWAYS respect coaches and officials' decisions and additionally respect their opponents.**
- B) If a student has a discipline issue during the school day, the administration will inform the AD/Coach who will then address the infraction based on team expectations. Continued violations of school/team policy will result in suspension or dismissal from the team.
- C) Possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs will result in immediate dismissal from the team. Athletes involved with any of the above will automatically be removed from the team for the remainder of that particular sports season and be suspended from extra-curricular activities for 90 school days..

### Parental Expectations

- A) Athletes must be present for 1 half day to be eligible to participate. 7:45-11:30 or 11:30-3:05.

- B) Parents must provide transportation for their athlete after practices and games. **Parents should be prompt. If a parent is consistently LATE picking up their athlete, he or she will be dismissed from the team.**
- C) Provide a signature to the coach if your child is not returning on the bus from an away game.
- D) Always keep in mind that playing time is a privilege, **not a right.**
- D) **Show sportsmanship at games/events towards student athletes, coaches, and officials. If sportsmanship cannot be followed, you will be asked to leave without a refund.**
- E) Siblings of athletes (5<sup>th</sup> grade and under) attending athletic events are to be supervised by guardians at all times and will not be admitted to an event without a parent/guardian. **There will be absolutely no running around/horseplay at any facilities. All kids are expected to SIT in the bleachers, especially at basketball games (for safety reasons) where players and officials routinely end up outside the playing court and possibly in the bleachers.**
- F) As a parent, I understand the inherent risk of injury to myself/my children when attending a DMS athletic event. (Foul balls, faltering on stairs, athlete's falling into the bleachers, uneven walking paths when entering stadiums, debris from wind gusts, etc.)
- G) **The officiating shortage is real and upon us. Not one official has or will ever deliberately "cheat" our team or your child. This is Middle School athletics, we will not have NCAA officials for our contests. We will have men/women who either work full time jobs during the day or are retired. Please understand that all calls are made in good faith and are the judgment of the official. Not one official, nor athlete, coach, or parent is perfect or will they ever officiate, coach, or play the "perfect game." If you would like to officiate, you may go to <https://tssaa.org/home/contest-officials> and sign up.**
- H) A parent ejected from a sporting event by an administrator, SRO, or official, may be asked to not return to another event for up to a calendar year.

### Other Expectations

- A) If an athlete fails to return a uniform by the end of the school year, they must pay the full cost of that uniform.
- B) Unexcused absences from practice/games is unacceptable and could lead to dismissal.
- C) A physical is required and must be on file with DMS before the student-athlete can participate in any sports related activity.
- D) **Athletes should dress appropriately for games in which they will be a spectator before or after their contest. Athletes should sit in a designated section of the bleachers and stay with their team. Appropriate language should be used at all times especially during games in which guests (fans) and community members are in attendance.**
- E) Athletes who start a sports season that aligns with the TSSAA calendar are not allowed to participate in another school sports' event without consent from their in-season coach. Athletes are not allowed to quit an in-season sport to attend an offseason school sporting event. An athlete who removes him/herself from a team while in season must wait until the next season starts (according to the TSSAA calendar) to begin participation.

**Discipline Eligibility Requirements-** *Coaches reserve the right to administer more severe consequences and the information below only pertains to minimum discipline requirements from DMS Administration.*

**Offseason-**Behavior in the offseason will affect future participation. These numbers below trump in-season numbers.

1. 5 days of ISS or any OSS/STOP for behavior infractions (including tardy to class) will result in loss of 10% of games (rounding up) during the first season the athlete participates in.
2. 8 days of ISS for behavior infractions will result in loss of 25% of games (rounding up) during the first season the athlete participates in.
3. Any student who receives OSS/STOP twice in a school year will be ineligible for 50% of games during the first season in which the athlete participates.
4. Any student who is placed in Alternative school will be ineligible for any sports/clubs at DMS for the first 30 school days upon return.

### **Season:**

1. If a student-athlete is assigned a **Principal's Detention** for a behavior infraction, (including tardy to class) they will **attend and SIT-OUT** (school dress code) a **practice**.
2. If a student-athlete is assigned **ISS**, the student athlete will **sit out the next practice and the next game**. (Will be required to attend practices and games in school dress code)
3. If a student-athlete is assigned **ISS** for the **2<sup>nd</sup> time**, the student-athlete will be **suspended the next 2 games and from all activities related to that sport until the 2 games are complete**. (Must attend all practices and games in school dress code.
4. Out of School Suspension (**OSS**)/**STOP**- 1<sup>st</sup> time-3 game suspension. 2<sup>nd</sup> time-**Dismissal** from the team for the **remainder of the season**.
5. Alternative School- **Dismissal** from the team for the remainder of the semester.

Each athlete and his/her parents are asked to sign below. Your signature indicates that you understand and are committed to the **Student-Athlete Contract**.

Student Athletes Name/Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parents Name/Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_