

ABBOTSFORD TRADITIONAL SCHOOL



Athletic Code of Conduct

ATS Athletic Code of Conduct

Purpose and Guiding Principles

Being an Abbotsford Traditional School student-athlete is a privilege and an opportunity to represent our school community. Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate the ATS Character Traits of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Empathy, Courage, and Service in the classroom, throughout the school, during practices and competition, while travelling, online, and in the community.

Athletics is an extension of the learning environment. Our goal is to help students develop character, belonging, teamwork, perseverance, leadership, and healthy habits while contributing positively to their team and school.

Participation is available to students who are in good standing, meet team commitments, and satisfy all applicable school, district, Ministry of Education and Child Care, and BC School Sports requirements.

The ATS Character Traits in Athletics

Respect

- Treat teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, spectators, staff, volunteers, and community members with dignity.
- Use appropriate language and gestures and avoid taunting, trash-talking, profanity, demeaning celebrations, and retaliation.
- Accept officials' and coaches' decisions appropriately.
- Respect facilities, equipment, transportation, uniforms, and property.

Responsibility

- Attend school, classes, practices, games, and team commitments regularly and punctually.
- Communicate promptly with coaches when an absence is unavoidable.
- Arrive prepared to learn, practice, and compete
- Complete learning missed because of athletic travel.
- Care for and return uniforms and equipment.

Integrity

- Act honestly and follow the rules and spirit of the sport.
- Take responsibility for choices and work to repair harm when mistakes occur.

- Avoid cheating, deliberate rule violations, and conduct intended to gain an unfair advantage.
- Represent ATS appropriately in person and online.

Empathy

- Include and encourage teammates and contribute to a safe, welcoming team culture.
- Recognize that people have different needs, experiences, identities, and abilities.
- Respond appropriately when someone is injured or experiencing difficulty.

Courage

- Make safe and principled choices, even under pressure.
- Ask for help when needed and accept feedback with a willingness to grow.
- Speak to a trusted adult about bullying, harassment, discrimination, unsafe conduct, or mistreatment.

Service

- Place team and community goals alongside personal goals.
- Assist with equipment, facilities, hosting, and other team responsibilities.
- Support teammates and younger athletes and contribute positively to the ATS community.

Student in Good Standing

To participate in ATS athletics, a student-athlete must ordinarily remain a student in good standing. A student in good standing:

- attends school and classes regularly and arrives punctually;
- participates meaningfully in learning and makes a reasonable effort to complete assigned work;
- follows the ATS and Abbotsford School District Codes of Conduct;
- demonstrates the ATS Character Traits;
- meets team expectations for practices, games, communication, travel, and equipment; and
- meets all applicable BC School Sports eligibility requirements.

Good standing is based on the student's overall pattern of attendance, engagement, conduct, and response to support—not solely on grades or a single minor incident.

Individual circumstances and approved accommodations will be considered.

Attendance and Athletic Participation

Regular and punctual attendance is an important responsibility of an ATS student-athlete.

- A student who is absent for all or a significant portion of the school day may not participate in a practice, game, tournament, or team activity that day unless the absence is excused and participation is approved by school administration.
- An unexcused absence, skipping a class, leaving class or school without permission, or avoiding a class in order to participate in athletics may result in the student being withheld from the next practice, game, or team activity.
- A continuing pattern of lateness or absence may result in a temporary restriction of athletic privileges and an attendance support plan.
- Absences related to illness, medical or accessibility needs, approved school activities, religious or cultural observances, or other exceptional circumstances will be considered individually.

Students will not be penalized solely because they require disability-related, medical, or other approved accommodations.

Engagement in Learning

Student-athletes are expected to make a genuine and sustained effort in their learning. This includes:

- arriving prepared and participating appropriately;
- using class time productively;
- completing reasonable learning responsibilities;
- communicating with teachers when help is needed; and
- making arrangements for learning missed because of athletic travel.

A low mark by itself will not normally result in a loss of athletic privileges. However, an ongoing pattern of refusing to participate, not completing agreed-upon responsibilities, or interfering with the learning environment may affect participation after the student has received feedback, support, and an opportunity to improve.

Conduct and Representation

Student-athletes are subject to the ATS and Abbotsford School District Codes of Conduct while at school; travelling to or from school or athletic activities; participating in practices, games, tournaments, or team events; representing ATS in the community or online; and engaging in conduct outside school that negatively affects the safety, well-being, or learning environment of the school community.

Conduct that may affect athletic participation includes, but is not limited to:

- bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, threats, hazing, or violence;
- unsafe or reckless conduct;
- possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, illegal substances, vaping or tobacco products at school or a school-sponsored activity;
- possession or use of a weapon;
- serious disrespect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, staff, volunteers, or spectators;
- deliberate property damage, theft, or misuse of property;
- retaliation against someone who reports a concern; or
- online conduct that harms another person or negatively affects the school environment.

Team Commitments and Sportsmanship

- Attend practices and competitions consistently and arrive on time, prepared, and ready to contribute.
- Notify the coach as early as possible when an absence is unavoidable.
- Follow team rules, safety expectations, travel expectations, and reasonable directions from coaches and staff.
- Support teammates, accept team roles, and understand that coaches determine lineups, positions, and playing time.
- Win with humility, accept loss with dignity, and show respect before, during, and after competition.
- Assist with setup, takedown, equipment, and hosting responsibilities.

Responding to Concerns and Loss of Athletic Privileges

When an attendance, engagement, team, or conduct concern arises, ATS will ordinarily use a progressive, proportionate, and restorative response. Depending on the nature, seriousness, frequency, and impact of the concern, the response may include:

1. a conversation, reminder, or re-teaching of expectations;
2. communication with the student's parent or guardian;
3. a reflection, restorative conversation, or action to repair harm;
4. an attendance, learning, behaviour, or athletic participation plan;
5. being withheld from part or all of a practice, game, tournament, or team activity;
6. a temporary restriction of athletic privileges; or

7. removal from the team in serious or persistent circumstances.

Serious concerns involving safety, violence, harassment, discrimination, substances, weapons, or significant harm may lead to an immediate restriction from athletic participation while the matter is reviewed.

Decisions will consider the seriousness and impact of the concern; whether the behaviour is isolated or part of a pattern; the student's age and maturity; the student's response, accountability, and willingness to repair harm; previous supports and interventions; any relevant disability, diverse ability, medical need, or other individual circumstance; and the safety and well-being of the student, team, and school community.

Restoring Athletic Privileges

Except where safety or the seriousness of the conduct requires a different response, a student whose athletic privileges are restricted will be told:

- the concern that must be addressed;
- the expectations for improvement;
- the supports available;
- the length or review date of the restriction; and
- what the student can do to demonstrate readiness to return.

Athletic privileges may be restored when the student demonstrates sufficient improvement, follows the agreed-upon plan, and shows readiness to contribute safely and positively to the team.

Decision-Making

Coaches may make routine decisions related to playing time, practices, team roles, and immediate game management. Decisions to restrict a student's broader athletic privileges because of school attendance, classroom engagement, or conduct concerns will be made by school administration in consultation with the student, coach, relevant staff, and parent or guardian, as appropriate.

Fees and Team Commitment

Athletic and team fees are due at the start of the season. Once a student joins a team, attends practices, and is placed on the roster, the student is expected to honour the commitment to the program. Refunds will be handled in accordance with school and district procedures. A student or family experiencing financial barriers is encouraged to speak confidentially with school administration so that support options can be considered.

Uniforms and Equipment

Uniforms and equipment provided by the school remain the property of ATS. Uniforms purchased by student athletes remain the property of students. Student-athletes are responsible for:

- using items only for authorized competitions and team activities;
- following care and laundering instructions;
- returning all items promptly and in reasonable condition; and
- reporting loss or damage to the coach or Athletic Director.

A student may be responsible for the replacement cost of lost items or damage beyond normal wear and tear. New uniforms or equipment may be withheld until previously issued items are returned or an arrangement is made with the Athletic Director or school administration.

Policy Alignment and Annual Review

This Code is to be read together with the ATS School Code of Conduct, the Abbotsford School District Student Code of Conduct and applicable administrative procedures, provincial standards for school codes of conduct, and current BC School Sports eligibility and sport regulations. Where requirements differ, the applicable governing policy or regulation will prevail.

The Code will be reviewed periodically and updated as needed to remain student-centred, strength-based, and aligned with school, district, provincial, and BC School Sports expectations.

Acknowledgement

I have reviewed the ATS Athletic Code of Conduct. I understand that participation in ATS athletics is a privilege connected to student good standing, team commitments, conduct, and applicable eligibility requirements. I understand that these expectations apply whether or not this acknowledgement is signed.

Student-Athlete

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Coach

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION

Student Legal Name (First and Last): _____

Student Preferred Name (if different than legal name): _____

Care Card Number: _____

Medical History/concerns (if any):

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

Relationship to student athlete: _____