



## **STUDENT ATHLETE CONTRACT**

### **Journey Middle School**

**Student Athlete:** \_\_\_\_\_

It is a privilege to participate on athletic teams at Journey Middle School. As a member of the athletic teams at Journey Middle school, the student-athlete is held to this contract for the entire school year. By signing this contract, the student-athlete and parent/ guardian accept the responsibility in abiding by these regulations and the consequences set forth if they are broken. This policy will be enforced as written by all athletic programs affiliated with Journey Middle School. No coach or advisor may weaken the consequences nor make these consequences more severe. This contract complies with Madison City Schools Board Policy, AHSAA policies, and National Federation guidelines.

#### **I. General Guidelines**

A. To be eligible to participate on athletic teams at Journey Middle School, student-athletes will maintain a minimum of 70 grade average in each class for each progress report grading period. If a student's grade is below a 70, they will not be able to participate in practice or games until their grade has reached a 70 or higher. Coaches will check their student-athlete's grades when progress reports are released. A committee consisting of student-athletes, parents, coaches, teachers, and an administrator may be convened to discuss a student athlete's grades that are below standard. Student-athletes should try to attain better than minimum grades, as student-athletes are students before they are athletes.

B. Student-athletes must be present in school for at least half a day to participate in an activity.

C. To be eligible to try out for and participate on athletic teams at Journey Middle School, student-athletes must have the following forms on file in DragonFly: updated physical, AHSAA concussion form, AHSAA student release form, and Madison City Schools insurance waiver. These must be completed and on file before a student-athlete can try out for any sport at Journey Middle School.

D. Once a student-athlete has made the team, he/she must complete the online Star Sportsmanship Program and have a birth certificate and Student-Athlete Contract on file. In addition to all the aforementioned forms, these forms must be on file before the sport's first contest for the student-athlete to be eligible to participate.

E. The AHSAA prohibits same-sport participation by JMS student-athletes on an outside team or in an outside group activity during the school's season for that sport. Private individual instruction for JMS athletes is allowed during their sports season, provided one-on-one instruction between that student-athlete and one instructor. It cannot be instruction with another player or group of players. Violating this outside participation rule will result in a fine (to be paid by the student-athlete), program probation, and the student-athlete being deemed ineligible. Contact the head coach or athletic director if you have any questions regarding this rule.

F. Every student-athlete must pay a JMS Athletic Fee (\$175) and fundraise (\$175) for each sport that he/she participates in. Coaches will announce the fundraisers. All monies raised or collected for the team will not be refunded. Parents can do a buyout for fundraising.

## **II. Conduct/ Behavioral Standards**

Journey Middle School students are bound by a strict moral and behavioral code. This contract applies to behavior both in school and out of school.

A. Both on and off campus, student-athletes will conduct themselves in a manner that honorably represents their school, family, community, and themselves. Any behavior or infraction on the part of the student-athlete that goes against the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct is subject to discipline from school administration and additional discipline from the head coach of the student-athletes team.

B. Occasionally, an athletic contest will result in a student-athlete missing instructional time. When this happens, student-athletes are responsible for all missed work and will plan with their teachers to make up all missed assignments in a timely manner.

C. When provided, student-athletes will ride to and from their team's contest via school transportation. A student-athlete may be released only to his/her parent/guardian. The exception is when written documentation from a student athlete's parent/guardian is provided to the coach, allowing that student-athlete to be released into another parent/guardian's care.

D. Student-athletes will be personally responsible for all school equipment/uniforms issued and will return items in the same condition they were issued when called for by the coach at the end of the season. Student-athletes and/or parents are financially responsible for any damage to uniforms, equipment, and facilities due to misuse and negligence.

E. Coaches may establish special guidelines for game day/practice attire. Student athletes must follow all established rules by the coach pertaining to game day/practice attire (For example, girls' soccer players will be required to wear sliding shorts under practice and game clothes).

F. Student-athletes are responsible for helping maintain a clean locker room and athletic facilities. This includes both indoor and outdoor facilities.

G. Student athletes are encouraged to be self-advocates in regard to ways in which they can improve skills and performance.

## **III. Consequence/ Penalties**

A. If a student athlete's grades fall below academic requirements, he/she will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation can include but is not limited to the following consequences: athletic committee meeting, athletic study hall, suspension from practice, suspension from games, and removal from the team.

B. Student-athletes who receive detention for any reason may be assigned discipline by their team's coach. Student-athletes who receive multiple assignments of detention are subject to game/ competition suspensions and possible dismissal from the team.

C. Student-athletes who receive an assignment of In School Suspension is subject to a minimum of a one-game/ competition suspension. Student-athletes who receive multiple assignments of In School Suspension are subject to further game/ competition suspensions and possible dismissal from the team.

D. Students who receive an Out of School Suspension disposition are subject to a minimum of a two-game/ competition suspension and possible dismissal from the team. Students who receive multiple assignments of Out of School Suspension will be dismissed from the team.

E. If a student uses electronic communication (**Facebook, Instagram, Text, TikTok, Twitter, Snap Chat, etc.**) to make a post/ send photo that reflect negatively on themselves, teammates, coaches, other students, teachers/staff, administration, or the school, he/she will be disciplined based on the severity of the comments. A meeting with the administration, athletic director, coaches, parent/guardian, and student-athlete may be called to determine the appropriate punishment for the infraction.

**\*\*\*\*Note: Dismissal from the team on the first infraction of this type is possible\*\*\*\***

F. A student-athlete removed from the field of play/ competition due to unsportsmanlike conduct is subject to discipline from the coach and school in addition to the consequence given by the AHSAA and is also responsible for paying the resulting fine.

**\*JMS Dance Teams and Cheerleading Squads will also have a demerit system along with this contract.**

If a student-athlete quits or is dismissed from a sport during the season, he/she is not eligible to participate in any JMS athletics for the rest of the school year. We want to stress to our student-athletes the importance of completing a job once they have started it. The exception is if there is a situation where the activity's continuation might be physically or mentally harmful to the student-athlete. If this situation occurs, the student-athlete may meet with the coach, athletic director, and administration and ask to be released from the sport. In this type of instance, school officials may determine that the student-athlete will not participate in that particular sport and participate in another JMS sport during the same school year.

I have read and understand what is expected of Journey Middle School athletes. I accept the guidelines and the policy in this student-athlete contract.

**Signature of Student-Athlete:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Parent/ Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_