



## **PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT** **FOR THE PLAYING OF SPORT**

The following document pertains to every student who participates in sport at El Shaddai Christian School.

### **VALUES:**

- The school will, at all times, do its best to field complete teams and honour fixtures.
- It is expected that all players be enthusiastic about their sport and team/s.
- Discipline and respect should be displayed by each player through proper uniforms, time management, on/off the field conduct and unity.
- Although all sports teams desire to win their matches, a “win at all costs” approach is unacceptable.

### **WHY WE PARTICIPATE IN SPORT:**

1. To strengthen our bodies which are a temple of the Holy Spirit – exercise is good for you.
2. To reach the community in which the school finds itself – we are called to be the salt and light to this community.
3. To counter the perception that Christian schools are inward looking and do not embrace the world – we know that we are in this world but we are not of this world.
4. To build character. Sport provides an opportunity for character to be built e.g. honesty, loyalty and reliability – when one offends the mind, one reveals the heart.
5. To give pupils the opportunity to discover, develop and thrive in their God-given talents and abilities.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

#### **1. Punctuality at practices and matches**

- Ensure that you are at practices on time.
- Always be on time for scheduled matches. Arrive with enough time beforehand for sufficient warm up time (as arranged by each coach).
- Missing a match is a serious offence. Teams for matches will be announced by the coach. Should a player not be able to play, a written excuse is to be submitted to the captain and coach at least 2 days prior to the match, unless the reason is due to an emergency.
- If a player is unable to attend a practice session or will, for some reason, be late, the captain and the coach must be notified by the player personally prior to the practice session.

## **2. Dress code**

- All players must attend practices dressed appropriately.
- To prevent possible injury, the correct footwear is vital. This is especially so if the conditions are “wet under foot”. Also ensure that you have the necessary protective gear with you for practices and matches.
- Players are to dress discreetly and no underwear to show at any time. (Girls – no “strappy “ tops).
- For matches, the correct uniform is a necessity and no one will be allowed on the field if dressed incorrectly.
- It is also important to arrive at the matches dressed correctly.  
The wearing of non-school jerseys, jackets and tracksuits is not allowed. Only official ESCS tracksuits or tops may be worn (no school jersey).
- Girls: Hair needs to be neatly tied back and out of face. No jewelry or nail polish is allowed.
- Should you be unsure as to the appropriate dress code, ask your coach for assistance beforehand.

## **3. Courteous and appropriate behaviour**

- Never argue with an umpire. Only the captain can discuss an issue with the umpire in a respectful manner.
- Play to the whistle, absolutely no “chirping” of the umpires or opponents will be tolerated.
- Greet your opponents with a firm handshake before and after the match.
- Thank the umpire for umpiring the match at the end of the match.
- Never use foul language on or off the field.
- Respect the facilities as well as the equipment you use.

## **4. Equipment**

- If a player is issued with any equipment, it is their responsibility to look after it, clean and return it as arranged with the coach.

## **5. Commitment**

- After “sign up”, it is expected of a player to complete a whole season as teams have been entered into the league based upon numbers at “sign up” time.

## **6. Refreshments**

- For home matches remember to bring a cold drink for your opponent.
- Hand it to them at the end of the match, with a firm handshake, thanking them for the game, irrespective of the end result.

## **7. The “Rain chain”**

- Captains, have the telephone number of your coach as well as your team members.
- Captains organize a “rain chain” within your team.
- The coach will contact the captain as to whether the match has been cancelled/ postponed.
- Rest of team phones the captain.

## **8. First aid**

- If any blood on a player, player must come off field and be cleaned.
- Player can either be replaced or he/she can come back on the field when there is a break in the game.
- Should the nature of the injury require medical treatment, the player will be transported there by either the school or parent and the parent informed immediately if done so by the school.

## 9. Disciplinary hearings

- Should any sportsman or sportswoman representing El Shaddai Christian School, at any level, be found not conforming to the accepted values of our school as set out in our school's general code of conduct as well as the above document, such a player/s will be tasked to appear before the school's sports disciplinary committee and a hearing into the matter will be held.

### **Purpose of a disciplinary hearing:**

To investigate the reason/s why a player has:

- Not arrived for a match
- Used inappropriate language
- Showed disrespect toward an opponent, umpire or opposing coach
- Received a "red card"
- In any other way breached the ESCS code of general and sports conduct

### **After hearing from the player, the committee will:**

- decide on an appropriate disciplinary action to be taken against the player/s involved
- inform the above player/s of this decision
- provide the player/s involved with advice for the future
- keep a record of each incident on the pupil's file