



Memphis Nighthawks

Player / Parent Participation Agreement

****Please Read Carefully Page 1 of 4**

Purpose: The Memphis Christian Athletic Association (Memphis Nighthawks) exists by the sovereignty and grace of God, through and for his son Jesus Christ. We seek to provide a competitive school-level athletic program for Memphis area Homeschool students. Our goal is to build character and relationships, in a competitive environment, that demonstrates commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word through integrity, hard work, self-sacrifice, teamwork and athletic excellence.

Player Covenant:

- * As ambassadors of Jesus Christ in all we say, think, and do, players shall strive to behave in a Christ-like manner at all times.

- * All players shall obey and comply with the coach's instruction or direction. Understand that experience, positions played, athletic ability, effort, attitude, development and discipline are all key ingredients in how the coaching staff will determine the roster prior to, and during any game. Parents/guardians of players, by allowing their son or daughter to participate on this team, agree to the authority of the head coach where team issues are concerned. Infractions include, but are not limited to:
 - Any unexcused absence from a game, practice, or team activity without advance notification to the coach.
 - Any complaining and/or poor attitude concerning playing time or coaching method.

- * Players shall promote a Christ-like attitude and good sportsmanship in all team activities. Infractions include, but are not limited to:
 - Disrespectful attitude toward pre-game prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Taunting (trash talking) or being disrespectful to coaches, officials, team members, opposing team players, parents and spectators.
 - Refusing to shake hands with an opponent, coach, or official.
 - Foul or improper language and / or gestures.
 - Fighting or provoking any one to fight on or off the court.
 - Provoking unnecessary verbal exchanges and / or physical action. Any physical action that is

not consistent with the strategy of the game and seems to be primarily intended to cause injury to another player, regardless if any injury occurs.

- Outward display of disagreement or arguing with an official's call in any manner, whether verbal or nonverbal (such as throwing or kicking ball, negative attitude or gesture directed towards an official).
- Posting on social media sites using inappropriate language or anything not bringing glory to Christ and/or the organization.

• Any insignia and/or associated articles, tattoos, and jewelry must be removed and/or covered during all team activities.

• The dress code shall be as determined by the Head coach (Board Approved), and is a requirement before and after games. Bring all uniforms articles to every game. If a uniform or any part of a uniform is lost or ruined, the player will be required to pay for the replacement.

• Team Rules for Road Trips: Each player must be accountable to his/her parents or designated supervising adult at all times. This adult is to know the location and activity of each player under his or her supervision. Each player must be responsible for keeping up with his personal belongings, team bag and uniforms. Each player needs to keep his room neat, and to show courtesy to all roommates. Players must observe closely all instructions regarding times and places to meet, when to be in rooms, lights out, and sleeping. Persons of the opposite gender should NEVER be in a player's room. The only exception may be a parent, with permission of (and preferably accompanied by) the coach or supervising adult. A player must not be alone with a person of the opposite gender at any time.

Parent Covenant:

• Always exhibit Godly behavior. We serve as representatives of Jesus Christ and should act accordingly. Infractions include, but are not limited to:

- Use of crude, profane or vulgar language or gestures.
- Consumption of alcohol and / or drugs.
- Critical, judgmental, or negative talk directed toward our team members or opposing team members.
- Stirring up dissension or causing division within the organization.
- Postings on social media sites using inappropriate language or language not bringing glory to Christ or the team/organization
- Use of crude or heckling behavior during a game, whether directed at other team, coach or fans.

- * Help encourage and enforce the Player Covenant.
- * Allow any remarks to the referees to be made by the coach
- * Always be supportive of your child and their teammates. Remember that every player on the team is a contributing player. Spread your encouragement equitably amongst the team.
- * Always be supportive of your coaches. Remember that they are sacrificing their time and efforts for our children. High School / College coaches are not receptive to parent interference in the running of their teams. Please give your coaches that same respect rather than questioning playing time and other coaching decisions.
- * Never badger the opposition or argue with their supporters. Be appreciative of good play from both sides. Be an example of our Christ-like organization.
- * Never harass or badger the officials. Offending an official will not help your team but could likely have a detrimental impact on the outcome of a game.
- * After each game, have a positive attitude and show an appreciation for the importance of your child's effort. Remember that playing the game well is more important than winning. Don't complain about the officials, coaching decisions, facility conditions, opposing teams, playing time, etc. Though many times it seems like children don't listen, you would be surprised as to what trickles down from you to your child.
- * Address any concerns or problems DIRECTLY with your coach or a member of your coaching staff and do so as soon as possible, but not before a game, during a game, during halftime, during a practice, or especially after a losing game. Attempting swift and contained resolution should always be the first course of action. There is a chain of command for disputes (see Conflict Resolution Guidelines on page 21). Please follow these guidelines.
- * Support the team and club by volunteering your services when needed. The only reason your child can participate is because of volunteers. The organization is growing tremendously and could use any help you are willing to provide.

Disciplinary Guidelines for Players:

The Player's Covenant is in force during all team functions including, but not limited to; games, practices, travel (before and after) team activity, team meetings, etc. Player disciplinary action for any infraction may include, but is not limited to; Verbal reproof, assignment of instructional task, extra running and/or drills, reduction in playing time, game(s) suspension, written formal apologies, restitution, and suspension from the team either temporarily or permanently. The head coach is given the responsibility and authority to enforce the disciplinary guidelines for any player infractions. If suspension or removal occurs due to Player Covenant infraction or any other reason, you will be responsible for any additional costs and NO refunds will be given.

The Parent's Covenant is in force during all team functions including, but not limited to; games, practices, travel, team activity, team meetings, etc. Parent disciplinary action for any infraction may result in you being asked by the head coach, athletic director or board member to stop the inappropriate behavior. In some cases, particularly if you have offended an official or disrespected a coach, you will be asked to leave the facility. If you do not cease from the behavior or refuse to leave the facility when asked, your child may be pulled out of the game, temporarily suspended or possibly even permanently removed from the team. Additionally, you and/or your child may be suspended or removed for inappropriate conduct. These decisions are at the discretion of the head coach, athletic director, or the Board of Directors. If suspension occurs or removal occurs, you will be responsible for any additional costs and NO refunds will be given.

We, the undersigned, have read, understand and agree to abide by the above guidelines. We agree to accept actions taken for failure to abide by these guidelines.

Date: _____

_____ Player
(Please Print) Player Signature

_____ Parent
(Please Print) Parent Signature