



30 September 2011

Dear Parents

The code below has been agreed by the Council of IAPS (Independent Association of Preparatory Schools) concerning the conduct of parents/pupils relating to sport in schools. IAPS has asked it to be sent to all parents.

The Manor is a member of IAPS and is happy to support this code. One can only speculate that some parents in IAPS schools may have overstepped the mark in certain aspects of touchline behaviour. Manor parents are exceptionally courteous and civilised in matches and sporting events: however unnecessary it is to send you this occasionally strongly-worded document, I am sure you will understand that I have a duty to do so.

Yours sincerely

Piers Heyworth
Headmaster

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SPORT

IAPS Code of Practice

Code of Practice for parents and pupils

Sport is a very important element of life at preparatory schools. It is participated in and enjoyed by a large number of boys and girls of all ages and abilities. This code of conduct aims to ensure that this enjoyment and participation remain at the heart of all we do.

Parents

Remember that children develop at different rates and react differently to the same pressures.

1. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in representative sport; he or she is not playing to satisfy your ambitions.
2. Children are involved in organised sport for their enjoyment and not yours.
3. Encourage your child always to play by the rules.
4. Teach your child that effort and teamwork are as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
5. Turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill improvement and a positive sporting attitude. Never ridicule or shout at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. Children learn best by example. Applaud good play by members of all teams not just your own.
7. Do not question publicly the officials' judgement and never their honesty.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport.
9. Recognise the value and importance of coaches. Allow them to decide what is best. They give their time, energy and experience to provide guidance for your child.

10. Set an example by being friendly to the opposition parents.
11. Emphasise enjoyment and fun. Praise and reinforce effort and improvement.
12. Be aware of the physical demands that sport places on your child.
Participation in both school and club matches may be too much for some individuals. Priority should be given to playing for the school as stated in the terms and conditions of many schools.
13. Do not harass or use inappropriate language at players, coaches or officials.
14. Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
15. Do not coach from the sidelines. It is unsettling for the children and disrespectful to the actual coach.

Pupils

All pupils should:-

1. Play for the fun and enjoyment of it, not just to please their parents or coach/teacher.
2. Where rules apply try to learn them and stick to them.
3. Accept decisions; let their captain or coach ask any necessary questions.
4. Control their temper and be a good sport.
5. Remember to respect their opponents and the match officials.
6. Remember that the aim of the game is to have fun, improve skills and feel good. They should not show off nor attempt to score the most points/goals etc.
7. Work equally hard for the team as for themselves. Their team's performance will benefit alongside their own.
8. Treat all players as they themselves would wish to be treated. They should not bully nor take unfair advantage of any player either on their own or on the opposition's side.
9. Co-operate with their coach, team-mates and opponents - without them there would be no game.
10. Appreciate and respect the adults who make these opportunities possible.