

# Montgomery Academy Athletics Philosophy

Athletics at The Montgomery Academy play an essential role in the school's education program, providing experiences that help our student-athletes physically, emotionally, and intellectually. Although student-athletes are encouraged and stimulated in many ways to excel and to win, it is imperative that good sportsmanship reign at all times to promote the educational values of competition.

**Winning is an immediate objective in all athletic contests, but it is not an end in itself.**

Participation in athletics is an integral part of the student-athlete's educational experience at the Academy. This participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the student-athlete's family, team, and to the student body. Athletics at The Montgomery Academy contribute significantly to preparing participants to become productive, contributing citizens of our community and society as a whole. In addition, Montgomery Academy offers its student-athletes the opportunity to demonstrate a willingness to accept responsibility for their actions, to express ideas and solutions to problems, and to learn the value of fair play, honesty, and teamwork.

## Athletic Program Objectives

1. To develop and maintain the highest level of sportsmanship.
2. To promote self-discipline and emotional maturity.
3. To encourage and develop respect for fellow students throughout the Academy, and for members of opposing teams.
4. To insure that the amount of time required for athletic participation does not interfere with a student-athlete's academic performance.
5. To develop appropriate attitudes toward winning and losing.
6. To develop appropriate attitudes toward citizenship, both in and out of school.
7. To orient each athletic staff member to abide by the rules, regulations, and officials' decisions that govern the staff member's respective sport.
8. To encourage respect for authority and the rights of others.
9. To enhance the student-athlete's ability to think and work, both as an individual and as a member of a group.

## 2009-2010 Athletic Department

Athletic Director	Anthony McCall
Associate Athletic Director	Julie Sinclair
Football	Chris Cournoyer, Head Varsity Billy Beck, Assistant Varsity and Junior Varsity Quinton Jones, Assistant Varsity and Junior Varsity Larry Hudson, Assistant Varsity and Junior Varsity Granger Shook, Assistant Varsity and Junior Varsity Slade Rhodes, Assistant Varsity David Bethea, Head Middle School Glenn Sylvest, Assistant Middle School Robb McGaughey, Assistant Middle School
Volleyball	Julie Sinclair, Head Varsity Susan Yantko, Head Junior Varsity Ginger Lowe, Head Middle School
Basketball	Anthony McCall, Head Varsity Boys Glenn Sylvest, Head Varsity Girls Derik Williams, Head Junior Varsity Boys Barry Fencher, Head Junior Varsity Girls Anthony Williams, Head Middle School Boys Glenn Sylvest/Barry Fencher, Head Middle School Girls Mark Eubanks, Varsity Boys Assistant Harold Williams, Junior Varsity Boys Assistant Robb McGaughey, Middle School Boys
Cross Country	Kevin Weatherill, Head Boys and Girls Ashley Akins, Assistant Boys and Girls
Track	Kevin Weatherill, Head Boys and Girls Sarah Singleton, Assistant Boys and Girls Kelly Rainer, Assistant Boys and Girls
Soccer	Wilfredo Navidad, Head Boys Glenn Sylvest, Head Girls Jay Doane, Assistant Boys
Golf	Chris Cournoyer, Head Varsity Boys Julie Sinclair, Head Junior Varsity Boys

Baseball	Billy Beck, Assistant Varsity Quinton Jones, Head Junior Varsity
Softball	Claire Compton, Head Varsity
Tennis	David Bethea, Head Varsity Boys Denise Tinney, Head Varsity Girls Fairlie Herron, Assistant Varsity Girls Ginger Lowe, Head Junior Varsity Boys Anne Ferrell Rhodes, Head Junior Varsity Girls
Cheerleading:	Erin Bradshaw, Head Varsity Mary Beth Terry, Head Junior Varsity Pam Parco, Head Middle School

## Sports Offerings

All Montgomery Academy Upper School athletic teams participate in the Alabama High School Association's (AHSAA) 3A classification, while all Middle School teams participate in the Capital City Conference. Although a number of sports teams are available, Montgomery Academy offers no co-ed sports. The following is a list of sports offered during the course of the school year:

<b>BOYS</b>	<b>FALL</b> Cross Country Football	<b>WINTER</b> Basketball	<b>SPRING</b> Baseball Golf Tennis Track Soccer
	<b>GIRLS</b>	Cheering Cross Country Volleyball	Golf Tennis Track Soccer Softball

## Sportsmanship

There is an innate desire within all of us to win. The pursuit to win must never be suppressed, but it must always be honorable. This quest must carry with it the realization that someone is not going to win. In high school athletics winning must not be the “only thing”- handling a loss is just as important in the educational process. It is imperative that we remember the importance of high school athletics and that its impact is not dependent upon the outcome of games, but upon good sportsmanship.

The Montgomery Academy expects everyone within our school community to demonstrate good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play during all athletic events. According to National Federation News, “sportsmanship is an overt display of respect for the rules of sport and for all others-players, coaches, officials, and fans.” Good sportsmanship, then, embodies a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and integrity.

In addition to our commitment to good sportsmanship among our student-athletes, the AHSAA has a sportsmanship statement and all of its members are expected to comply: “This AHSAA athletic contest is an educational event and we expect everyone in attendance to act in a manner as if they were in attendance in an academic classroom. Your price of admission does not give you the right to harass, be disrespectful or use abusive language towards opponents, officials and others. Players are to play, coaches coach, officials administer the rules of the game to the best of their ability, and fans are encouraged to cheer in a positive manner for their team and show respect for their opponents.”

## Expectations of Coaches

Coaching is teaching. Therefore, responsibility for supervision, preparation, and training is as essential in coaching as it is in the classroom. The coach's classroom is found on the fields, on the courts, on the track and even on the buses transporting student-athletes. These are opportunities a coach can use to help teenagers become better citizens and ultimately better human beings.

Placed in influential positions to make an impact on young lives, coaches must understand the inherent responsibility that comes with this monumental task. We understand that each Montgomery Academy student-athlete should be treated as an individual whose welfare is primary at all times. Therefore, the coach must be aware that he/she functions as a model in the education of the student-athlete and shall never place the value of winning above the value of character building. With this as a foundation, Montgomery Academy coaches shall adhere to the following expectations:

1. Coaches shall not swear at or humiliate athletes or allow such behavior among athletes.
2. Coaches shall support and enforce school rules.

3. Coaches shall actively use their influence to promote sportsmanship by working closely with administrators, athletes and parents.
4. Coaches shall promote the entire athletic program and direct his/her program in harmony with the school's mission.
5. Coaches shall not incite players or spectators against officials.
6. Coaches shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct in all personal contact with student-athletes, parents, officials, school administrators, the media, the public, the Alabama High School Athletic Association, and the Athletic Director.
7. Coaches shall develop reasonable rules and regulations specific to his/her team and be sure team members understand what is expected of them.
8. Coaches shall file his/her team rules with the Athletic Director.

*Coaches may incur the cost of fines levied against The Montgomery Academy by the Alabama High School Athletic Association, for their actions during a game or match.*

### **Additional coaches' guidelines:**

**Scheduling:** Each coach is responsible for completing his/her schedule. Under no circumstances should dates, times or sites be changed without informing the Athletic Director. Contests should not be added without consulting the Athletic Director. If there is a change in the schedule the coach must notify the officials.

**Budget:** We do not have an unlimited budget, therefore, exercise good judgment when making purchases. All purchases must have prior approval of the Athletic Director. Under no circumstances should any coach approach a member of the Athletic Committee regarding purchases for their team. This request must be cleared by the Athletic Director.

## **Expectations of Student-Athletes**

Participating in athletics at The Montgomery Academy is a privilege for all student-athletes, and a goal attained by many. The attainment of this goal entails responsibilities that must be maintained. Everything done as a participant in the athletic program must be done with dignity, integrity, and honor.

Student-athletes at The Montgomery Academy must understand that their privilege to participate in athletics necessitates responsibility to themselves, to the school, and to others in and out of our immediate community. In addition, student-athletes assume a leadership role when they become members of an athletic team. The student body and people throughout the community will often judge Montgomery Academy by the student-athlete's conduct and attitudes both on and off the field. Therefore, this endeavor must be viewed as a leadership position due to the influence and visibility bestowed upon those participating in our athletic program.

Since athletes wield a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of spectators, it is imperative that student-athletes at The Montgomery Academy embrace the following expectations:

1. Student-athletes will refrain from the use of profanity during practice or competition.
2. Student-athletes will exercise self-control at all times, while accepting the judgment of coaches and officials.
3. Student-athletes will treat fellow teammates and opponents with respect.
4. Student-athletes will set a good example for younger students in the student body.
5. Student-athletes will refrain from conversations that encourage dissension.
6. Student-athletes will demonstrate loyalty to the school, coach, and their respective team.
7. Student-athletes will be on time to practices and games.
8. Student-athletes will acquiesce to authority and supervision in a positive manner at all times.
9. Student-athletes will adhere to Montgomery Academy's Training Rules.

*Student-athletes may incur the cost of fines levied against The Montgomery Academy by the Alabama High School Athletic Association, for their actions during a game or match.*

## **Expectations of Parents**

When Montgomery Academy students participate in the athletic program, they experience some of the most memorable and rewarding moments of their lives. However, in contrast to the memorable and rewarding moments are times when things do not go the way the student-athlete wishes. These become opportunities within the educational experience for the student-athlete to talk to his/her coach and discuss the situation. Although some circumstances may warrant a conversation between the coach and parents, allowing the student-athlete to handle the situation fosters opportunities for maturation and learning.

It is the responsibility of the student-athlete's parents and coach to maintain positive relations. Parents are entitled to answers to legitimate questions regarding their child's performance or status; however, coaches should not be subjected to verbal abuse. Should hostile feelings or arguments ensue during a meeting with a parent and coach, the meeting will be terminated immediately and another meeting scheduled that includes the Athletic Director.

We ask that all parents of student-athletes support the athletic program by adhering

to the following expectations:

1. Leave coaching of the team, playing time, and position played by your child, to the coach and his/her staff.
2. Refrain from profane language on the sidelines.
3. Use your child's role on the team as an opportunity to teach the importance of what it means to be part of a team.
4. Avoid being judgmental of the coach in the presence of your child.
5. Respect game officials and their judgment.
6. Encourage your child to adhere to school and athletic department rules.
7. Do not attempt to confront coaches before, during, or after a practice or game. These can be emotional moments for both parents and coaches, and meeting at those times will not promote resolution.

*While attending a game or match you represent not only yourself, but your child and The Montgomery Academy. Please be a positive role model.*

## **Academic Eligibility Requirement**

In order for a student to participate in extra-curricular activities (athletics, forensics, chorus, or otherwise), a student should maintain a 70 or above average and be current in all assignments. If a student's average drops below 70 in any course, he along with his coach or activity sponsor and course teacher will meet with the Division Director. At this meeting the Director will determine whether or not the student will be allowed to participate in the activity while he works to improve his academic standing.

## **Rules of Eligibility**

*Effective 2008-2009 academic year:* All student-athletes grades 7-12 are required by the AHSAA to complete the STAR Sportsmanship program. A student **must** complete the program prior to the beginning of his/her season in order to be eligible.

The following is a summary of the the AHSAA essential eligibility requirements. If you have specific questions please contact the Athletic Director.

**Enrollment Rule** - A student must be enrolled within the first 20 days of a semester as a regular student in the school system where the student will participate. The 20-day requirement may be waived under extenuating circumstances. Note: A regular student is one who is enrolled at the school and is taking six new subjects of work.

**Age Rule** - A high school student who has reached his/her 19th birthday before Aug. 1 is ineligible. Any junior high (ninth grade) student who has reached his/her 16th

birthday before Aug. 1 is ineligible. Any middle school student who has reached his/her 15th birthday before Aug. 1 is ineligible.

**Eight Semester Rule** - A high school student may be eligible only eight semesters in attendance after entering the ninth grade. School attendance of 15 days or more of any semester is counted as a semester.

A student can be eligible only four fall semesters and four spring semesters after entering the ninth grade. The last two semesters, the seventh and eighth of a four-year high school and fifth and sixth of a three-year high school, must be consecutive.

A junior high student may be eligible only three seasons in any one sport. A middle school student may be eligible only two seasons in any one sport.

**Participation Rule** - No student may participate in any one sport for more than six years (seasons) after entering the seventh grade or for more than three seasons after entering the 10th grade. A student who officially participates in one contest of a sport is credited with one year of participation in that sport.

**Outside Participation Rule** - A student who is a member of any school athletic team (grades 7-12) may not participate (includes practice) on a non-school team in the same sport during the school season of that sport. Also, a member of any school athletic team may not participate in an outside sport activity in the same sport during the school season of that sport.

Private individual instruction is not considered an outside sports activity. A team's season begins the day of that team's first contest and ends when that team's season has been completed.

A student who violates this rule becomes ineligible to compete on that school team or in that school sports activity for the remainder of that school season. Any student who participates on an outside team after the school sport season begins is ineligible to join that school team for the remainder of the season.

**Fifty Percent Rule-Participation** during the school year by students from any high school team (varsity and B-team involving grades 10-12) on a non-school team during the off-season is limited to 50 percent of the number of players required to play the game of that sport (i.e., three in basketball, six in soccer, five in baseball, etc.) A freshman team is considered a junior high team.

**Note:** In each sport, only the specified number of students participating on a non-school team during the school year may be placed on the same high school team roster the following season. Those students cannot be interchanged on the school team roster.

The rule does not apply to seniors who have completed their high school eligibility in

that sport nor to middle and junior high school students who will not play on a high school team the following season.

**Independent Rule** - A student who is a member of any school swimming, track, cross country or wrestling team may participate as an independent in two outside activities on non-school days during the season of that sport. The schedule of the school team, including the championship play, takes precedent over any outside participation by an individual. (Members of tennis and golf teams are exempt from this rule.)

A member of a school soccer team may participate in one Olympic Development Program evaluation period per month as long as there is no loss of school time. The evaluation must be under the guidance of ODP.

**Amateur Rule** - Only amateurs are eligible. An amateur is one who does not use his/her knowledge or athletics or athletic skill for gain. A student may not receive an award of any kind having a monetary value of more than 50 dollars-other than medals, trophies, plaques or championship rings.

**Academic Rule** - Students entering the 10th, 11th and 12th grades must have passed during the last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable, at least six new Carnegie units with a minimum composite numerical average of 70 in those six units. Four core courses must be included in those units passed and averaged. English, mathematics, science and social studies are core curriculum courses.

Students entering the 8th and 9th grades must have passed during the last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable, at least five new subjects with a minimum composite numerical average of 70 in those five subjects.

Students entering the 7th grade for the first time are eligible.

Students may regain eligibility at the end of the first semester by meeting the same requirements listed above during their last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable. All first semester work used in regaining eligibility must be completed by the fifth day of the second semester.

**Transfer Rule** - A student is eligible in the school zone in which his/her parents reside (public, private or parochial schools). Any student who completes one year's attendance at a school outside his/her home school zone and fulfills all other requirements becomes eligible in that school. (This does not apply to foreign exchange students.)

A student whose parents make a bone fide move completely out of one school zone into another school zone may transfer all his/her rights and privileges to the member school that serves the area where the parents reside.

Custody or legal guardianship set up with anyone will not establish immediate athletic eligibility.

Home Rule - A student attending a member school outside his/her school zone may return to his/her home school (where the parents reside) and be eligible at the beginning of any school year if all other requirements are met.

Overlapping School Zones - A student whose parents reside in an area served by more than one school lives in the zone of each school, thus in overlapping school zones. A student who changes schools within these overlapping school zones is ineligible for one year at the new school.

## **Individual Coach Standards and Rules**

Athletes must abide by any additional rules and/or consequences set by an individual coach for their respective sport.

# **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY**

## **The Montgomery Academy**

(To be completed by student-athletes and parents)

I/We have read the Athletic Handbook, and understand that we are responsible for the expectations and rules contained herein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete's Printed Name

Grade: 7 8 9 10 11 12

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*This form must be completed and submitted to your coach or Athletic Director before you can compete in any athletic event.*





**THE  
MONTGOMERY  
ACADEMY**

---

**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK  
2009-2010**



# THE MONTGOMERY ACADEMY

## **Vaughn Road Campus**

3240 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, Alabama 36106-2725  
(334) 272-8210 • Fax (334) 277-3240

## **Hill Campus**

1550 Perry Hill Road  
Montgomery, Alabama 36106-2691  
(334) 272-8210 • Fax (334) 270-1462

### **Interim Headmaster**

Vivian Barfoot  
E-mail: [barfoot.v@montgomeryacademy.org](mailto:barfoot.v@montgomeryacademy.org)

### **Athletic Director**

Anthony McCall  
E-mail: [mccall.a@montgomeryacademy.org](mailto:mccall.a@montgomeryacademy.org)

### **Associate Athletic Director**

Julie Sinclair  
E-mail: [sinclair.j@montgomeryacademy.org](mailto:sinclair.j@montgomeryacademy.org)

MEMBER



The Montgomery Academy admits students of any race, religion, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.