

Mercy Crew Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct For Parents

Crew is a beautiful and demanding sport that builds character, physical strength, mental toughness, self-confidence and promotes the true meaning of the word "team". Crew also demands a larger commitment from families in terms of time, money and energy than many other high school sports. Yet the learning experiences, the lasting friendships and sense of community enjoyed by rowers and parents outweigh the demands.

The same team spirit embodied by the rowers is needed to support and run Mercy Crew. Because Mercy Crew receives limited financial support from the school, the program relies upon the contributions of hard-working parents. To the best of their abilities, parents are expected to support the mission of Mercy Crew with their time and energy. The success of Mercy Crew is founded upon the support and participation of all its members to the best of their abilities.

As a prerequisite for an athlete's participation in the Mercy Crew program, parents are expected to sign and fulfill this statement of expectations and code of conduct.

Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct

- 1) I will encourage my daughter to embrace the values of good sportsmanship and teamwork through their full participation in all of the responsibilities of rowing.
- 2) I will be a positive role model for Mercy Crew and promote good will among the athletes, coaches, and other parents.
- 3) Respect is a cornerstone of the mission of Mercy Crew. I will always be courteous and respectful towards athletes, coaches, and other parents and will not harass, ridicule, or humiliate any individual, including rowers, coaches and other parents.
- 4) I shall appropriately control my emotions at all times.
- 5) I shall represent Mercy Crew and Our Lady of Mercy High School with dignity.
- 6) I shall allow the coaches to perform their duties and carry out their responsibilities at practices and regattas and will not interfere with, undermine, or usurp the coaches' authority. I shall not discuss with the coaches, unless solicited by the coach, team or race strategy, selection of athletes for certain boats, or athletes other than my own daughter.

- 7) I shall support my daughter's participation in Mercy Crew by contributing my time and energy to the program to the best of my abilities, including but not limited to assisting with car pools, hospitality, chaperoning, fund-raising, boathouse opening and closing and fulfilling other critical administrative functions.
- 8) When I attend away regattas, my primary focus will be the regatta itself and to assist with the logistics of team travel, including team practice, setting up and taking down hospitality at the regatta site, transporting rowers to and from the regatta site, chaperoning rowers if called on to do so, and generally supporting the team throughout the regatta.
- 9) I will abide by the rules and policies of the Hotel Guidelines for Mercy Crew Parents, and ensure that my daughter does as well.
- 10) I shall timely honor my financial commitments to the program.
- 11) I shall endeavor to ensure that my daughter is punctual for practice including pre-regatta practices at away regattas.
- 12) When a conflict arises, I shall endeavor to resolve it first, as appropriate, through direct and constructive discussions with the other party.
- 13) I shall resolve conflicts in a calm and respectful manner without resorting to name calling, hostility, or violence.
- 14) I understand that serious misconduct contrary to this Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action that is appropriate under the circumstances, including warning, parent exclusion from regatta attendance, rower exclusion from regatta attendance and in the most extreme cases only rower suspension. Whether conduct constitutes a violation of this Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct depends upon the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, past incidents, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the conduct occurred.

I pledge to abide by the foregoing Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct.

Date: _____

Parent Signature

Date: _____

Parent Signature