



Westlake Girls Lacrosse - Code of Conduct

Being a member of the Westlake Girls HS Lacrosse team is a privilege, not a right, provided to players by the parents, coaches, organization members, and the board. In addition to the TGHSLL, US Lacrosse, and Athletes Code of Conduct, the following rules must also be observed and followed.

1. **Attendance:** Attendance at lacrosse events is mandatory, unless otherwise stated. All athletes must attend all lacrosse events unless the coach is notified 24 hours ahead of time (the exception being in the event that an athlete is sent home from school, she must notify her head coach as soon as possible). Athletes must arrive on time and be ready to participate at the time and place communicated by the coaches & board members, or playing time, starting position, or leadership status may be affected.
2. **Absences:** Excused reasons for missing lacrosse events include, but are not necessarily limited to, family emergencies, injuries, and absence from school due to illness, or appointments. Coaches may require documentation from a parent or doctor to count the absence as excused. Unexcused absences will result in lessened playing time, loss of starting position, and/or possible loss of leadership status. If athletes or player's parents do not communicate their absence with their head coach 24 hours ahead of time they may also lose playing time and/or lose starting position. Note: The parents of JV players are responsible for communicating absences to the JV Head Coach. Coaches and board members are aware that school comes first, so athletes are held to a strict "No Pass, No Play" rule- however, if an athlete must miss practice for a school related event or homework, that athlete must understand that they will receive a decrease in playing time or loss of starting position, so that proper time management is rewarded.
3. **Respect:** Athletes and their parents are encouraged to speak with their Head Coach and/or the board regarding any issues they may have with practices, games, or any other lacrosse related issue, in a respectful manner. Coaches attend practice and spend their free time designing innovative, engaging, and valuable practice plans to enable athletes to excel at lacrosse and are there to help ALL athletes. Disrespectful attitudes and remarks are a sign that the athlete does not wish to be at the lacrosse event, and the athlete may be dismissed from the event if the behavior is not altered after a warning. Athletes must respect their teammates- retaliation or negative attitudes toward teammates for ANY reason will not be tolerated.
4. **Cell Phones:** The use of cellular phones and smartphones during "lacrosse time" is prohibited, unless permission has been granted by your head coach. Phones are not only a distraction to yourself, but also to other athletes, and unauthorized usage will result in the collection of the device until lacrosse time has ended. Lacrosse time includes games, practices, warm-ups, team meetings, and any other time when a coach requires your attention. * Coaches may allow players to quickly check phones during water breaks in case a family member is trying to leave a message for a player.
5. **Social Media:** Athletes may not use social media to harass, defame, provide false information, or otherwise use social media in a negative manner regarding teammates, coaches, and Board members. Negativity of any media directed toward our team, our

school, other teams, other schools, officials, coaches, parents or board members will not be tolerated.

Misuse of social media also includes, but is not limited to, posts and/or photos involving illegal activity, and favoring/liking/retweeting/etc., of any negative statements directed toward those specified above. Reminder: anything posted on social media is a form of permanent internet record and is able to be traced back to you, your family, and/or your school.

6. **Driving:** Athletes may drive themselves and teammates to and from local practices and local games, as long as the driver is legally able and physically capable of operating a motor vehicle in the state of Texas. Athletes may NOT drive themselves or other players to or from an overnight tournament, or at ANY time while at the tournament, this includes games, dinners, etc.
7. **Substance Abuse:** Westlake Lacrosse Association Substance Abuse Policy. As a matter of policy, the Westlake Lacrosse Association and its member clubs (Westlake Girls HS Lacrosse) does not permit or tolerate the use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol or steroids by its players. The Club reserves the right to enforce this policy through mandatory random testing for banned substances and by empowering the coaching staff to take disciplinary action when there is a reasonable suspicion based on personal observation that a player has violated the Club's policy. This policy is based on the EISD UIL policy.

For more information regarding consequences of violations please see the EISD High School Athletic Handbook.

Participation in Westlake Girls HS Lacrosse events is completely voluntary, but refunds are not offered if an athlete decides to terminate her participation early. All athletes are expected to have self-discipline, a pleasant attitude, and must be ready to learn and practice with 100% effort every practice and game day. A team only plays as well as they practice and warm-up, so full attention is required at all lacrosse events. In order to provide an engaging and learning centered environment at practices and games, disruptive players will be asked to leave.

The privilege of participation in the Westlake Girls HS Lacrosse program may be withdrawn if a student athlete is found to be in violation of the established standards mentioned in the Codes of Conduct above. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, suspension, demotion, and expulsion. Refunds will not be offered if the athlete is found in violation of any code of conduct rules.