



## OVERALL PHILOSOPHY

### **GATOR BASKETBALL MISSION:**

*To inspire, develop and empower young men as basketball players, students and, MOST importantly, excellent members of family and community.*

### **GATOR BASKETBALL VALUES:** Humility, Excellence, Attitude, Responsibility, Team

Players are expected to demonstrate Gator Basketball HEART and therefore conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on them as an individual, their family, their school and on our Gator Basketball Program as a whole, both on and off the court.

## GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

*"Discipline yourself and others won't need to." –Coach John Wooden*

1. Represent our Gator Basketball Program with class at all times. Never do anything that will embarrass yourself, your family, your teammates, your coaches nor Standley Lake High School. The image you project is most important.
2. Improve your language on a daily basis. Do not allow your mouth to embarrass you or the program. Develop a vocabulary that sheds a positive light on all of us.
3. Be at **ALL** practices and meetings. "Be on time when time is involved"
  - a. Be punctual! If you're early, you're on-time. If you're on-time, you're late.
4. We need to support each other at ALL levels whenever possible. When we ride the bus (round trip) to a game together, we need to ride it home together.

JV/Level 3 players are expected to sit behind the varsity bench at away games and are allowed to sit with the student section at home games. They are expected to stay and support the varsity during triple-header games. If you are struggling in school, you need to get permission from a coach to go home before the conclusion of the varsity game to do homework, although most homework can be done at the gym.

5. Dress and groom neatly:
  - a. On-the-court- Policy: Only issued equipment will be worn on the court during games and practices—this includes shoes and jerseys.
  - b. Classroom Policy: Dress to represent Gator Basketball in the manner in which we want to be represented. Many people take association with our program very seriously, and we need to make every effort to insure that these people are proud to associate with us – **LOOK PRESENTABLE** – keep your pants up and hair groomed.
  - c. Game Policy: We need to look sharp on game days. Dress slacks, ties, dress shirt, and dress shoes are mandatory for **ALL** levels. You can shower after the game, but you need to wear your slacks, dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes **BOTH** to school and games.
    - i. Alternate game day wear chosen by Varsity captains, approved by coaches
    - ii. No hats on game days
6. Be a gentleman at all times—there are always eyes watching.

**GATOR BASKETBALL HEART**  
**HUMILITY – EXCELLENCE – ATTITUDE – RESPONSIBILITY – TEAM**

## **PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS**

At Standley Lake, we are building a tradition of excellence in academics and athletics. We will uphold these standards and expect players to do the same. Our coaching staff desires to promote a first class program characterized by consistency, hard work, and discipline. The philosophy of the coaching staff is for the players to take responsibility for the success of the program. They are expected to advocate for themselves.

### **1. Academics:**

- All athletes are expected to be passing all their classes.
- School work will not excuse a player from practice. A big part of being a student-athlete is to balance and budget time for both homework and practice. If a player needs to make up a test, lab, oral assignment, etc. they should arrange to do so with their teachers during off period or before school.
- Missing practice to do homework **will** effect playing time.
- A student-athlete is ineligible when they have 2 F's during an eligibility check.
  - Additionally, Boys Basketball program will implement 2 D's equal 1 F.
- Players are expected to be in class. Any unexcused absences or tardiness will result in extra conditioning for the entire team. If the problem persists, playing time will be affected.
- Study Hall: Mandatory for players with any Ds/Fs. Available to all players.

### **2. Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco:**

- a. Violation of school and county policies related to drugs and alcohol will be strictly enforced.
  - First violation will result in a 50% suspension of games and a **mandatory** drug and/or alcohol class (registration and payment of class is the responsibility of the athlete/parent).
    - Student-athlete is still responsible to attend practices and games.
  - Second violation will result in immediate dismissal from the team for the season.
  - Third violation will result in a ban from the team for the remainder of the student-athletes high school years.
- b. Tobacco violations will follow Jefferson County School District policies.

### **3. Practice:**

- Practices are mandatory.
  - Practice time is critical to the success of our Basketball Program.
  - Please schedule appointments outside of the scheduled practice time.
- Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. Each unexcused practice will result...
  - 1<sup>st</sup> unexcused absence—1 game suspension and meeting with coach
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> unexcused absence—exit from the team.
- Excused absences happen but cannot be reoccurring. **(24 hour notice)**
  - Playing time may be effected due to missing practice time
- If a player is sick or hurt and cannot practice, the player should notify the coach before practice. The player is still expected to be at practice watching.
  - Upon the players return, playing time may be affected by the injury or illness.
- In a family emergency situation, the player should contact the coach immediately.
  - We understand that emergencies happen.
- Vacations:
  - Please do not put the coaches in a position to have to make decisions that will hurt the players and the team.
  - Holiday Vacations should be planned appropriately based on Basketball Calendar.
    - Unless otherwise explained by coaching staff.

#### 4. Playing Time:

- Playing time **CANNOT & WILL NOT** be an issue!!!
- Players and parents need to **SELFLESSLY** be a part of the Gator Basketball Program. **If your support of the program is based on the amount of your playing time, please reconsider.** Do not take playing time decisions personally. Coaches will make their decisions based on performance in practice, player attitude, game situation and intuition.

#### 5. Bench Expectations:

- Players are expected to stay involved in the game while on the bench. It is **ESSENTIAL** that the athlete knows what is going on during the game so when their number is called, they will know what is expected.
- Players are to **SUPPORT** their teammates at **ALL TIMES** while on the bench.
  - Standing ovation for ALL charges, 5 second and 10 second counts.
  - Standing ovation with a “high five” for all substitutions
  - Be excited for each other’s accomplishments
  - Be supportive of each other’s failures
- Please keep the first two chairs open for coaches to talk to subbed players
- Players suiting up need to help out the managers with water during timeouts

#### 6. Sportsmanship for players and parents:

- Players will display excellent and appropriate behavior both on and off the court.
  - Poor behavior/attitude will effect playing time.
- Technical fouls could result in immediate removal from the game, possible loss of playing time and/or suspension.
- It is sincerely requested that parents do not make inappropriate comments to officials, players and coaches. **THANK YOU.**

#### 7. Communication Pathway

- If a problem arises, please follow the JEFFCO mandated communication pathway...
  - The **player** can bring the concern to **the coach directly involved.**
  - If the problem has not been solved then a meeting can be scheduled with the **player, parent, and coaching staff.**
  - If the problem is still not resolved, **then** a meeting can be setup with the player, parent, coaching staff and SL Athletic Director.
- Anonymous emails and phone calls to any coach or school administration will be discarded without recognition.
- Please do not bring up any issues prior to or following a game. Instead, make an appointment by phone or email the following day with the coach to discuss your questions or concerns.

#### 8. “Off-Season” Planning

- Our “off-season” is not mandatory, but HIGHLY encouraged for each player’s growth and team success. **Commitment leads to Confidence, Confidence leads to Competing.**
  - Mid-April – July: Player Development (Skill & Strength – 3-nights/week)
  - June – July: Team Camp(s) and Tournaments
  - August: OFF (Please plan family vacations August and around July 4th)
  - September – October: Player Development (2-nights/week)

**9. Equipment and Uniforms:**

- **Wash uniforms in cold and use low heat to dry. Do NOT bleach nor iron!!!**
- New uniforms are nice for players to have but it comes at a great expense. These uniforms might need to last 6-10 years in the program and the players are responsible for taking good care of them.
- If uniforms are lost, stolen, or damaged, the players are responsible to pay for the cost of replacing them.
- Below is a list of replacement costs for each item:
  - Game jersey - \$150.00
  - Game shorts - \$150.00
  - Varsity warm-up top - \$150.00
  - Warm-up top - \$100.00
  - Travel bag - \$100.00
  - Gameday vest - \$100.00



**PLAYER - PARENT / GUARDIAN CONTRACT**

Both the athlete and the parent must sign the following acknowledging they have read, understood and agree with the policies of the Standley Lake Boys basketball Program. Please return the signed form to the player's coach.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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