



North Atlanta Christian Flight

Release and Indemnity Agreement

Unfortunately, we live in a fallen world marked by sin. This reality has not escaped God's notice or His remedy. While at some level it is inevitable that disputes will arise, we are not left to our own devices to "reinvent the wheel" when they do. Matthew chapters 5 and 18 address how Christians are to deal with an offense. Further, I Corinthians 6:1-7 exhorts us not to take our disputes to ungodly judges or before the courts of unbelievers. These passages place a duty on both the offended and the offender.

Keeping this in mind, parents will be asked to consent for themselves and their child/children to this process. Further, participation in NAC activities is predicated on each parent's agreement to indemnify and hold harmless NAC, NAC board members, NAC officers, NAC coaches, GICAA, officials and any other facility used, against any and all claims, including claim, suit, or action for personal injuries.

It is conceivable that any one -- board member, coach, parent, or student-athlete -- may do something that offends another. It is the scope of this section to outline how offenses, infractions, and otherwise bad attitudes and behavior will be dealt with:

1. **Student – Athletes:** One of the goals of the Flight program is to build character.

The Coach has wide discretion to disciple (which does not extend to corporal punishment) a player for failures in either attitude or conduct. That discipline might include a loss of playing time and, if the undesirable behavior or attitude persists, dismissal from the team. The Coach is expected to communicate with the student: (a) what the student did wrong; (b) the sanction that will follow; (c) make sure that appropriate restitution (e.g. an apology) is made by the student; and communicate to the Board any behavior/attitude problems. It is the student's responsibility to share the nature of the infraction as well as any consequence with his parents.

If the student feels that discipline by the coach is unjust, he must first "appeal" to his parents. Parents should prayerfully consider the situation and, if possible, affirm the duty of the child to respect and obey the coach and take the discipline in a Christian way. If the parents feel that the coach has been unjust, then they – together with their child – should appeal to the coach. If that attempt does not reach a satisfactory conclusion, the parents and student may appeal to the Board. The decision of the Board is final.

One of the coach's jobs is to manage the team. As such it is imperative that the coach be given the tools to do that job. Accordingly, the coach has absolute authority in matters of playing time, starting lineup, plays that will be run, coaching strategies, and player instruction. These coaching decisions (as opposed to discipline matters) will not be appealed. Players and parents should graciously and respectfully accept the coach's role in managing the team. Any parental or student response other than this will be dealt with as a disciplinary matter.

2. **Parents:**

Many small eyes are watching how adults behave. More importantly God is watching. It is all too easy for any of us to grumble and complain about the coach, the referee, the Board, or a spouse. If a parent routinely behaves in a manner that is inconsistent with the principles set forth in this Handbook, that parent will be dealt with in accord with Matthew 18, with the goal of a quick resolution at the lowest level possible.

Board members have no special standing as Christians. We are all in fact our brother's keeper. It is appropriate for any one who witnesses offensive behavior to seek to win a brother, with humility. Ideally, a matter can be resolved before it ever comes before the Board/Board member.

Should the Board have to deal with the matter, the offender will be privately approached (by a Board member) and the situation addressed. If the situation remains unresolved and/or is recurrent, then a witness will be included to re-approach the offender. If the situation remains unresolved and/or is recurrent, the offender agrees to meet with the Board. The Board will take what action it deems best and proper up to and including removal of the family from the Flight program.

3. **Arbitration:**

By participating in the Flight program, every player and parent agrees to resolve any dispute relating to Flight (except as otherwise limited above) through Christian mediation using the services of Peacemaker Ministries (<http://www.hispeace.org>). If the dispute remains unresolved after mediation, the parties agree to resolve the dispute by binding arbitration through Peacemaker Ministries. The arbitration shall be conducted in Atlanta, GA and may grant any relief which the arbitrator deems proper in the circumstances. The decision of the arbitrator shall be conclusive and binding on all parties. The costs of pursuing mediation and/or arbitration will initially be borne by the party seeking mediation and/or arbitration.

HAVING SEEN AND AGREED:

 STUDENT/ATHLETE

 DATE

 PARENT

 DATE

 PARENT

 DATE