

Pursuing Victory with Honor: Creating a Healthy Sport Experience



Steps to implement the PVWH program in your school

Background Information:

Pursuing Victory with Honor (PVWH) is one of the AIA's signature programs and represents continued efforts to promote the core values of the association and member schools. Throughout its history, the AIA and member schools have used athletics and extra-curricula activities as vehicles to facilitate the development of the whole child. Because of the central role athletics has come to play in American culture, the time has come to put even more attention and effort into programs that directly target key developmental objectives. To this end, PVWH represents the belief that educational athletics is an effective way to assist participants in the development of sportsmanship and a healthy, addiction free lifestyle.

Purpose of Interscholastic Sports:

Interscholastic athletics should provide a developmental setting in which an educational process can occur.

STEP ONE:

Schedule key administrators and core coaching staff to attend a PVWH seminar.

STEP TWO:

Adopt the Arizona Sports Summit Accord as the guiding framework of the program focusing around the core values, the Six Pillars of Character (Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship). This will enable your school to create a "right" atmosphere within the department with buy in from all stakeholders, especially administrators. If winning is everything, an athlete/coach will do anything to win.

STEP THREE:

Develop a mission statement that accurately reflections the values of your sports program:

"The mission of interscholastic athletics is..."

STEP FOUR:

Involvement of coaching staff. Coaches play a central role in defining the nature of the sports experience for athletes and their families. This places heavy responsibility on the coaches themselves and on those who select and retain them to assure that only positive values are promoted.

Role of the Teacher/Coach and the TEAM Approach. The highest potential of sports is achieved when teacher-coaches consciously **T**each, **E**nforce, **A**dvocate and **M**odel (TEAM) positive behaviors.

Hold a coaches meeting prior to each sport season focusing on the missions of your athletic program consistent with the values of the PVWH program. Encourage your coaching staff to engage their student-athletes in the PVWH program.

STEP FIVE:

Create codes of conduct for all parties involved in the interscholastic athletics and activities process (Student Athletes, Coaches, Parents/Spectators and Administrators). Hold individuals accountable for demonstrating character and sportsmanship and making healthy lifestyle choices.

STEP SIX:

Continue to promote the PVWH program and messages consistent with the core values of the PVWH program.

- Public Address Announcements at Athletic Events
 - Involvement of student body (pep assemblies, announcements, etc.)
 - Active parent participation in program (meetings, newsletters, etc.)
 - Prominent collateral materials promoting PVWH program (banners, posters, etc.)
- (Additional information concerning the PVWH program, sportsmanship and healthy life style issues is available at www.aiaonline.org and www.aiaacademy.org.)



Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc.

