

Community Christian School Athletic Handbook

I. Philosophy of Athletics at Community Christian School

A. Purpose

Athletics shall be a means to teach Christian character, not only for the athlete, but also for the student body. Athletic competition provides the opportunity for the training of the Holy Spirit's control over the mind, the will, and the emotions. The competitive nature of athletics stirs up the strong drives of the will and emotion. By developing Christian character traits like patience, endurance, self-control, loyalty, and humility the will and emotion can be placed under the control of the Holy Spirit. We believe this control is vital in the life of each student if he or she is to be a successful Christian.

B. Opportunities for Witnessing

Athletics also offers the opportunity for an effective witness of the transforming power of Christ in the lives of believers to the community. When non-Christian players and students see the Christian behavior and attitude expressed by our students and fans, it should be in a sharp contrast to that of the "attitude" of the world. This will bring proper attention to Christ and a witness to his power.

C. Moral Responsibilities

We are responsible to God for maintaining a positive Christian witness in and through our athletic contests. Ephesians 4:29-32 speaks to us concerning this: "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby we are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."

D. Spiritual Goal for Athletes

Athletes Statement: Since I am an ambassador for Christ, I will conduct myself in word and action just as Christ would conduct himself. All that I do, I do with total release of my mental and physical abilities and my emotional energies toward performing like Christ, having in mind that Christ is my only audience.

E. Spiritual Goal for Parents and Fans

Parents/Fans Statement: With the strength and help of Christ, I will not by word or action, do anything, which would hinder the development of Christian character in the lives of the athletes at Community Christian School. I will guard my tongue and emotions and use them to encourage the athlete in a positive way.

Conduct of parents and guests of parents should be above reproach at all Community Christian School athletic events. Anger or frustration with referees, coaches, or players must be controlled and handled in an adult fashion and according to the principles in Matthew 18.

F. Winning from God's Perspective

Winning is achieved when the players and coaches give themselves completely in practicing and playing to their maximum ability and effort with the idea that Christ is the only one in the audience.

II. Academic Requirements for Participation

A. Purpose of Academic Requirement

Competitive athletics is an important part of our curriculum. The teaching and learning which athletics affords is invaluable in meeting the following demands of education.

1. To correct the temper
2. To form manners and good habits
3. To prepare for future vocations

B. Academic Standard for Eligibility

Athletic eligibility for students at CCS is based on their weekly academic performance. Grades will be checked every Monday but may run a grade check any day of the week. A student must be passing in all classes. If a student is failing a class, they are put on probation for seven days. After seven days, if the student still has a failing grade, they are ineligible for athletics until the following Monday. An athlete is allowed to attend practices while ineligible but will not be allowed to suit up or play in any games or matches.

PLEASE NOTE CCS POLICY: Athletes must attend at least 3 hours of class to be able to participate in an athletic event that day or evening. Athletes not attending classes the day following participation in an athletic event may be required to submit a signed doctor's statement.

CCS will honor an outstanding male and outstanding female scholar athlete each year. A committee consisting of the athletic director, the school administrator and at least two teachers from CCS will select these individuals. Nominations for the award will be taken from teachers and reviewed by the committee. To be nominated an athlete must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the year in which he is nominated, be a member of a CCS athletic team, exhibit Christian values and attitudes both on and off the court or field, and should set an example of leadership for the CCS student body.

1. A student who has not attended classes ninety percent of the time for the semester in a member school becomes ineligible. Exceptions may

be made by the principal due to illness, injury, death in the immediate family, valid reasons for late enrollment, or late at the beginning of attendance.

2. A student must have received a passing grade in any five subjects to be counted for graduation that he/she was enrolled in during the last semester he/she attended fifteen or more days. (This requirement would also be five school subjects for the 7th and 8th grade students.)
3. If a student does not meet the minimum scholastic standard, he/she will not be eligible to participate during the first six weeks of the next 18-week grading period they attend.
4. Scholastic eligibility for students will be checked after three weeks (during the fourth week) of a semester and each succeeding week thereafter. Schools may choose to run eligibility checks on any day of the week.
5. A student must be passing in all subjects he/she is enrolled in during a semester. If a student is not passing all subjects enrolled in on the day of the grade check, he/she will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. If a student is still failing one or more classes during the next week on the grade check day, he/she will be ineligible to participate during the next one-week period. The ineligibility periods will begin on Monday and end on Sunday.
6. A student who has lost eligibility under this provision must be passing all subjects to regain eligibility.
7. If a student is not in class the first day of school, regardless of whether the student moved into the district, or transferred into the district there is a mandatory 15 day sit out period.

C. Athlete Roles

- Be positive and have a good attitude.
- Support your teammates.
- Work hard at practices.
- If you have a question, ask the coach.
- Know and follow team rules.
- Challenge yourself as an athlete and as a person.
- Meet classroom expectations.
- Notify the coach of any scheduling conflicts in advance.
- Talk to the coach about any special concerns about philosophy or expectations.

D. Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

All athletes are required to follow the “Secondary Handbook” regarding cell phone and electronic devices. The handbook states, “Students are not to bring laptops, iPads, iPods, Kindles, smart watches, electronic translators, electronic games, ear buds, etc. into the school building or activity center, including transportation to sporting events...If a student is discovered to have electronic device, demerits will be issued, and the device will be secured in the office until claimed by parent.”

III. Practice

A. Times

1. All varsity and junior varsity practices are after school.
2. Middle school girls and boys practice will be during the regular school day during PE class.
3. On Wednesdays all middle school and varsity practices will be completed by 5:00 p.m.
4. Practice times will vary in length; however, no practice on a school night shall last longer than two hours (weight training is not counted toward practice time).

B. Practice Requirements

1. If an athlete cannot be at practice, he/she must notify the coach before the practice is to begin.
2. All athletes need to be ready to start at the required time.
3. If possible, do not schedule appointments during school or practice time. If an athlete does have an appointment be sure to notify the coach ahead of time.
4. Being late to or missing practices or games will result in making up that time after practice or loss of privileges. EXAMPLE: loss of playing time, not being allowed to suit up for a game or games, etc.
5. Each sport will have a required practice gear that must be worn at all practices. There will be no alteration of the practice gear without the consent of the head coach.

IV. How Playing Time is Determined

- A. One of the objectives in athletics is to win the game if possible. That is not our ultimate goal, however, each game that we play we want to play our best. Therefore, striving to gain victory is important. The Apostle Paul illustrates this in Philippians 3:14 when he says, "I press on to win the prize for which God called me." Paul is referring to spiritual goals, but this can be applied to all that we undertake in this life.
- B. The coach must make decisions on who he/she feels like is able to compete at a successful level in a game situation. This is based on a player's athletic ability, good work habits, and cooperation with teammates and coaches.

V. Bus Rules

- A. Boys and girls are not allowed to sit together on the bus.
- B. The bus/van should be cleaned after every use. Coaches will forfeit practice the next day until uncleaned vehicles are cleaned.
- C. No radios, CD players, iPods, ear buds, or other electronic devices are allowed on any school vehicle.
- D. Riding to the game is an excellent time to prepare both mentally and spiritually for the upcoming game.

VI. Trips

- A. Overnight trips are an excellent time to create a greater bond of unity within the team. It is also an opportunity to be a witness for the Lord and the school. If any student does not maintain a good citizenship record, he/she could be denied the privilege of traveling with the team.
- B. The following guidelines shall be followed for athletic trips.
 - 1. There may be required study times.
 - 2. Each night there will be an “in room” and “lights out” time. After this time no athlete may leave his or her room without permission from a coach.
 - 3. Athletes are not to leave the hotel premises.
 - 4. Room to room calls are prohibited after “lights out”.
 - 5. Television programs that have any questionable scenes or language are prohibited.
 - 6. Boys and girls cannot go into each other’s rooms.
 - 7. Any athlete who is on the trip but will not suit up to play will follow the same guidelines.
 - 8. The coaches will make room assignments.

C. Penalties for Violating any Guideline

- 1. Verbal correction.
- 2. Loss of playing time.
- 3. Loss of privilege to suit up for the game.
- 4. The athlete may be sent home.
- 5. Loss of privilege to go on other school trips for the remainder of the year.
- 6. Suspension from school.

VII. Games

A. Dress on Game Days

- 1. Boys and girls will wear dress code as designated by the coach and upon approval of administration.
- 2. Boys and girls may leave a game in uniform, warm-ups, or nice casual dress as determined by the coach.

B. Uniforms

- 1. It is the athlete’s responsibility to keep the uniform clean and in good shape unless the coach makes arrangements to have the uniforms cleaned for the players.
- 2. Lost or damaged uniforms must be brought to the attention of the coach. Athletes may be financially responsible for the uniform’s replacement.

C. Transportation

- 1. Transportation will be provided for games outside of the Oklahoma City metro area unless otherwise stated by the coach.
- 2. All players are expected to use this transportation and any other arrangements must be made with the coach.

3. After away games the athletes are expected to return home using school transportation. Athletes may ride home with their parents or another player's parents but only after the coach has been notified. Athletes may not return home from away games with another student.

VIII. Authorization for Medical Care and Physicians Certificate

- A. All athletes must have on file the following forms before they are eligible to practice and play. All the forms that are listed are available on the school website or sent for electronic signature through DocuSign.
 1. Authorization for medical care and treatment
 2. Physical form
 3. Heat/Concussion/Cardiac Arrest Forms as required by the OSSAA.
 4. OSSAA Biological Sex at Birth Statement
- B. It is the athlete's responsibility to have a physical examination.
- C. The school does try to have doctors available at the end of the previous school year to assist our athletes.
- D. All injuries and physical problems should be reported to the coach immediately.

IX. Loyalty Issue

- A. If coaches are going to be successful, they must have loyal support from all athletes and parents involved.
- B. Parents have a very important role in working with their children in athletics and must realize that they have delegated authority to coaches when their child participates in athletics at Community Christian School. Parents have entrusted the coach with the authority to make decisions regarding athletes of Community Christian School. The parent's role should be as encourager and show loyalty to the coaches. If the parent fulfills this role, then the athlete, the team and all involved will benefit greatly. If the parent is concerned about a situation, then they should arrange for a meeting with the coach.
- C. Players of the athletic program at Community Christian School are in essence pledging loyal support to school, teammates, and coach. Athletes will be expected to do everything the coach asks and to do it with the right attitude. Complaining about decisions that the coach must make and causing dissension on the team could lead to dismissal. Players are encouraged to bring problems or concerns to the coach.
- D. If a player is dismissed from the team by the coach or if a player quits the team before the season finishes that player will not be nominated for any postseason honor. Nor will that player be awarded a varsity letter for that season.
- E. If a player quits the team or is dismissed from the team before the season finishes the athlete is not able to practice with another sport until the team they quit finishes the season.

X. Parent/Coach Communication Guide

- A. Parent/Coach relationship are very important to the success of any program and children are best served in their athletic experiences by understanding and respecting the position of both coaches and parents. Clear communication between athletes, coaches, and parents is an important element in any athletic program. CCS coaches **WILL NOT REQUIRE** a student or parent to obtain a social media account or texting service in order to communicate about sports business. Official communication will be sent through email. **NOTE:** All social media/texting policies follow the CCS policies discussed in other handbooks.
- B. What parents can do to help:
1. Help your child understand and follow the team rules.
 2. Keep your child included on the goals of the **TEAM**.
 3. Be involved with the booster clubs and help with any needs.
 4. Help out on any workdays.
 5. Stay positive in the stands and at home.
 6. Don't argue with officials. We might see them later.
 7. Please don't talk to your child during the game. Players are trying to win a game and they will talk to you when it is over.
- C. What athletes can do to help:
1. Be positive and have a good attitude towards parents, coaches, teammates, officials, and opponents.
 2. Work hard at all practices
 3. Talk to the coach about any special concerns about philosophy, expectations, playing time, etc.
 4. Know and follow team rules.
 5. Challenge yourself as an athlete and as a person.
 6. Notify the coach of any scheduling conflicts in advance.
Communicate with coaches when you may be late to or miss a practice.
 7. Don't argue with officials. Penalties (unsportsmanlike conduct, technical, etc) received for arguing with officials will result in removal from the game for at least a quarter.
- D. If a disagreement arises, we ask that you do the following:
1. Disagreements are generally resolved at the lowest level. Players need to first meet with the coach and discuss any problems or areas of concern. Usually, a player and a coach can come to an understanding.
 2. If the player/coach conference does not resolve the situation, please call, or e-mail the coach at school. We will set up a time to meet. Please do not confront a coach before, during or after a game/practice (give 24 hours). Please respect the fact that we have a lot on our minds and our emotions may be running high.
 3. If you are still unsatisfied, please contact the Athletic Director, then the Principal. Please respect the chain of command.
- E. Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach:
1. The coach's interaction with your child.
 2. Any concerns about your child's interaction with others.
 3. Ways to help your child improve athletically and academically.

Athletic Handbooks Agreement

I have thoroughly read this Athletic Handbook and understand its contents. Should any questions arise, I know to inquire with the coach to obtain the correct answer. I am also aware that failure to comply with these policies and procedures as stated herein might result in a loss of privileges. It is understood and agreed that the policies and procedures set forth in this Athletic Handbook are in addition to policy/procedures outlined in the Student Handbook.

Date	Print name here	Signature of student
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Date	Print name here	Signature of parent
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