



CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

A C A D E M Y

Athletic Handbook

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I. Foundation Principles

A. Introductory Statement

1. The athletic handbook is designed to inform parents and students of the rules, regulations, and information that will help students at Christian Chapel Academy as they participate in athletics. (Or something about participating in the rich tradition of CCA).
2. The coach of the team is primarily responsible for compliance by his/her team members to the rules regulations, and policies governing Christian Chapel Academy.
3. Interscholastic athletics is a voluntary program. Participation in athletics is a privilege. This privilege carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility, and sacrifice. It is also an expectation that parents/guardians and fans of each student follow these same standards of conduct. When a student does not meet these standards, the student may be suspended for a time and/or removed from the activity, per review from the Athletic Director. When a parent/guardian, or other fan associated with the student athlete does not meet these standards, the parent/guardian/fan may be prohibited from attending games/events; and in extreme cases their child may be removed from an activity.
4. Parents and students are asked to sign an acknowledgement document located at the end of this handbook stating they have read and understood the information included in the Athletic Handbook and that students are subject to disciplinary measures should he/she violate the rules and regulations set forth in this Handbook.

B. Philosophy

1. Athletics enriches the lives of student athletes through sports and leadership. Christian Chapel Academy emphasizes several characteristics throughout our athletic program.
 - a) Respect for Authority (Romans 13:1; 1 Peter 2:13)
 - b) Teamwork (1 Cor 12:12-20; Hebrews 10:24, 25; 1 Peter 4:8-10; Romans 12:4-6)
 - c) Perseverance
 - d) Humility
 - e) Love, Patience, Kindness, Self-control
2. The purpose of the athletic program is to provide athletic opportunities to develop Christian character through organized athletic competition. The program strives to promote the image of the school in the community through being a positive Christian witness and excellence in the sports program.

C. Why We Play

1. We play to glorify God, to develop students of character, to learn life lessons (accountability, commitment, teamwork, self-sacrifice, manage success and failure, strive for excellence, etc.), to learn a sport, prepare student athletes who are interested in high school sports. To display Christian character and values in all athletic experiences whether we win or lose.
2. Play to win but winning is not the purpose (goals vs. purpose), see above

II. Checklist for First Practice

- ☐ Academic Requirements
- ☐ Current Physical (good for 2 years)
- ☐ Has my parent signed Authorization for Treatment, Release of Medical Information, and insurance information
- ☐ Have both the parent and student signed the "Acknowledgement Extracurricular Athletics Handbook"
- ☐ Have both parent and student signed the MSHSAA concussion materials. Link: [MSHSAA Concussion Materials](#).

III. Athletic Seasons (School Year 2023-2024)

(sports in bold offered at CCA or through a co-op with OLLIS)

Fall Season: August 14 is the first possible practice for Cross-Country, **Football, Volleyball**, Boys or Co-ed Soccer

Winter Season: October 30 is the first possible practice for **Wrestling, Boys and Girls Basketball**

Spring Season: February 26 is the first possible practice for Boys and Girls **Track and Field**, Girls Soccer, Boys Baseball

IV. Academic Requirements

A. Students must maintain a C- (70% or higher) in **any** class, including electives to be academically eligible for athletics. If a student has below a C- in any class, they are ineligible to play for that week. Students may practice with the team, but may not play in games for the week. Grades will be checked each week to determine eligibility. A student athlete may lose their eligibility at any time due to disciplinary problems.

B. Academic Eligibility will be checked at the beginning of each sports season. If a student would like to be a part of the team, but grades are an issue, he/she will have 3 weeks to improve his/her grades to meet the minimum standard. If after 3 weeks, grades do not show improvement and consistency, he/she will be asked to leave the team. When a sports season begins at the start of the school year, the student's grades will be checked after 3 weeks of assignments have been graded to determine eligibility.

C. These consequences are to provide an incentive not punitive. Academics are top priority at Christian Chapel Academy.

V. Expectations

A. Teams

1. Coaches have their own policy on how he/she will organize his/her team.
2. Play time is not guaranteed and typically is influenced by practice attitude and effort. Equal playing time is NOT guaranteed nor required.
3. CCA teams are Middle School teams (6-8) however, when needed teams may need to pull up 5th graders to field a full team.

B. Participation in More than one Sport in One Season

1. Student may participate in more than one sport during one season with the approval of coaches.
2. If students participate in more than one sport during one season the coaches and parents will need to work out the schedule
 - a) Consideration should be given to the importance of the sport or activity (game versus practice)

C. Accidents/Injuries

1. All accidents or injuries, at home or away competitions, should be reported to the coach immediately. We take injuries seriously and we take concussions seriously; please see the MSHSAA Concussion Information.
2. Medical expenses are the responsibility of the athlete/family. Written verification from the doctor is required when a physician removes an athlete from practice or competition. Written verification from the doctor is required to return to athletic competition. Provide verification to your head coach.

D. Missing Practice or Games

1. Playing a sport requires time and dedication. Each athlete is expected to participate in all practices, games, and any other event that may occur during the season. When missing practice or games, prior notification to coaches is required. If for any reason your athlete will miss a practice or game, parents are to communicate with the appropriate coach. If an athlete is absent during the school day for any length of time, he/she will not be allowed to play in that night's game. **Exceptions may be made** if a student has an excused absence for a scheduled appointment that has been notified to the administration and coach in advance.

E. Transportation

1. Transportation is the responsibility of the athlete/parents.

F. Sportsmanship and Integrity

1. As members of the Christian Chapel Academy athletic program, students, coaches, and parents are expected to demonstrate proper respect for each other, opponents, opposing coaches, teachers, officials, and spectators. Student athletes are expected to exhibit the highest level of conduct, both on and off the fields, as they are at all times representatives of God, their team, school, and community.

G. Positive Coaching and Expectations/Communication

1. Communication You Should Expect from the Coach

- a) Philosophy of the coach
- b) Expectations the coach has for the season
- c) Locations and times of all practices and contests
- d) Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off season conditioning
- e) Procedure should your child be injured during participation in the sport

2. Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

- a) Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- b) Notification of any scheduling conflicts well in advance
- c) Specific concerns regarding a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- d) Medical or physical limitations of your child

H. Parents/Guardians

- 1. Support your student-athlete's efforts to success
- 2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of your student-athlete
- 3. Treat all game officials and coaching personnel with courtesy and respect
- 4. Assure that your student-athlete will attend all scheduled practices and athletic contest
- 5. Unless invited by a coach or given permission, practices are closed to non-team members
- 6. Model mature and sportsmanlike behavior at all athletic contests. Expect the same from all Eagles fans. Any invited fans related or not, of a student athlete are included in these expectations and are the responsibility of the family of the student athlete. Fans are to follow sportsmanlike behavior to athletes, coaches, officials, and those associated with other teams.

I. Athletic Fan Code of Conduct

It is important that we exemplify Christ and honor Him in all things, including athletics. Please follow our code of conduct below with a good spirit and attitude. Fans who do not abide by this code of conduct may be asked to leave.

1. Do not put down players, coaches, officials, or fans.
2. Consider how to encourage the athletes.
3. Use language that honors God.
4. Do not go onto the playing court or field; remain in the designated fan areas.
5. Remember, the Biblical definition of winning is “to glorify God,” not the outcome on the scoreboard.

J. Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. Situations involving your student
2. Ways to help your student improve
3. Your student’s attitude, work ethic, and eligibility
4. Concerns about your student’s behavior as a member of the team
5. Concerns about your student’s grades/studying habits
6. Treatment of your student, mentally and physically

K. Issues that are not appropriate to discuss with coaches or athletic director (Including parents/guardians, family members, friends, or other fans):

1. Playing time of any student athlete
2. Team strategy, practice organization, or play calling
3. Other student athletes

L. Procedures to follow if there is a concern to discuss with a coach: “Chain of Command”

1. Your child should speak to the coach about the issue. This will help your student grow and become an advocate for him/herself.
2. Contact the coach to set up an appointment. If the coach cannot be reached, contact the athletic director. The AD will assist you in arranging a meeting with the coach. The coach has the right to request the presence of a third party (Assistant Coach, Athletic Director, or other).
3. If a meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, schedule an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.

** The AD will only intervene if the issue has already been discussed with the coach

*** Please do not confront a coach before, during, or after a game or practice. Meetings during these times are usually not as productive and do not promote resolution, as emotions may run high. A good rule of thumb is the “24 hour” rule. This means schedule a meeting with the coach a minimum of 24 hours after the game to allow for thoughtful reflection.

**** Perhaps instead of this, the initial contact will be via email. As this will allow time and require the parent to be thoughtful and consider their thoughts.

VI. Conduct and Attendance Guidelines for Participation

Students must display qualities of good citizenship if they wish to participate in extra curricular activities. Students are representatives of God, their team, school, and community.

A. Player Conduct

1. Players will accept terms of playing time. Equal playing time in games and tournaments is not guaranteed nor required. Coaches have the responsibility of evaluating players during each practice, games, and during tournaments. Playing time is determined by the evaluation of player performance and team needs. The CCA Athletic Program’s goal is to improve each player’s skill, but each player’s responsibility is to improve the team.
2. Players must be “coachable” and willing to improve and adjust technical skills per Coaches’ request.
3. Players are expected to display a good attitude and effort at all practices, games, and tournaments.
4. CCA will not tolerate negative language, foul language, rude gestures towards teammates, other players, parents, Coaches, officials, fans, or opponents.

B. General Conduct

1. Participation in athletics is a privilege not a right. To be successful the participant must be well disciplined and willing to put aside individualism for the benefit of the team. It is very important to our school reputation that our student athletes conduct themselves appropriately during the school day as well as outside the school day.
2. Consequences based on hearsay vs. credible source. Accusations alone will not result in discipline for violations of good citizenship. Discipline can occur when a faculty member, a credible source, witnesses the act or where there is an admission of guilt by the student athlete. There may be a need to investigate accusations of improper citizenship, if this is the case the administration will do so.
3. Penalties for violations may include but are not limited to sitting out of an athletic event, suspension from the team, or removal from the team.

C. Attendance Eligibility

1. If an athlete is absent during the school day for any length of time, he/she will not be allowed to play in that night's game. **Exceptions may be made** if a student has an excused absence for a scheduled appointment that has been notified to the administration and coach in advance.

D. Citizenship Guidelines

1. To be eligible to participate in school activities is a privilege, not an inherent right, and therefore requires certain behaviors and attitudes. More specifically, any student who represents his or her school in activities must be a credible citizen and be judged so by proper school authority certifying the list of students for participation. Student-athletes are representatives of their school and God.
2. A student whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon him/herself or his/her school is not considered a credible citizen.
3. "Unsatisfactory conduct" is not tolerated, whether it is in the classroom or in competition. The Principal and/or Athletic Director all have the right to suspend or terminate a player's involvement in a sport for repeated instances.

VII. Drug and Alcohol Policy

- A. Research has proven that even small quantities of narcotics, abused prescription drugs, or alcohol can impair judgment and reflexes. Student athletes who use drugs are a threat to co-participants, other students, themselves.
- B. All student athletes are prohibited from using, possessing, distributing, manufacturing, or having controlled substances, improperly used medications, or any mind/mood altering or intoxicating substances present in their system.
- C. Consequences will result in suspension of part or all of the remaining season and even suspension from all activities for the rest of the school year.

VIII. Athletic Fees

- A. There is an athletic fee of \$50 for students on Junior High teams. Arrangements for this fee are through Blackbaud Tuition Management billing program. This fee must be paid before students are allowed to participate.
- B. Parents are expected to pay for uniforms for volleyball and basketball.
- C. If your athlete is playing a sport that is a co-op sport with another school, such as football or Wrestling with OLLIS, fees, jerseys, and other administrative details will be through that organization.

- D. Warm Up Shirts for Volleyball and Basketball are provided by the PTO.

IX. MSHSAA or other organization policies

- A. Citizenship required.
- B. Age Limit
1. The principal must have evidence of the legal birth date of the student.
 2. A student shall not participate on a sixth, seventh, or eighth grade team if the student becomes 15 years of age on or before August 31 of that school year.
- C. Filming and Videotaping
1. Many schools we play live stream their events, please note this if you would rather your child not participate during live streaming.

X. Athletic Awards

- A. The student, to be considered an athletic award, must have displayed good sportsmanship in competition and have been regular in attendance at practices and games. Awards will be presented at our athletic awards banquet after each sport.

XI. Coaches/AD/School Board/Admin Directory

Sport	Head Coach	Email	Phone Number
Athletic Director	Anne Hartle	hartlea@cca-columbia.com	(573) 874-2325 (573) 424-3255
Fall Coaches			
Volleyball			
Winter Coaches			
Boys Basketball			
Girls Basketball			
Spring Coaches			

XII. Parent and Student Acknowledgement

Student, Parent, and Spectator Code of Conduct

The following standards of Conduct are set for by Christian Chapel Academy to govern behavior of students, parents, and spectators before, during, and after athletic events. (Biblical verses?)

CCA spectators should be positive in their cheering for CCA teams. It is important that we set an example for who we are and who we hope to be by following/avoiding the following behaviors.

Please follow the following:

- ☐ A consistently positive attitude shall be conveyed toward players, coaches, officials, and spectators.
- ☐ Athletic contests (both home and away) are an extension of the classroom. All school rules are in effect.
- ☐ Applaud good play and sportsmanship by either team.
- ☐ Give consistent support to coaches and managers whether winning or losing. Coaches are giving hundreds of hours of time and energy and are committed to providing an environment that is conducive to player development and success.
- ☐ Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
- ☐ Encourage players to obey the rules and to accept decisions of officials.

Please avoid the following:

- ☐ No remarks shall be addressed to opposing players, coaches, spectators, or to referees except when comments convey genuine friendship and respect or direct response to questions by the game official.
- ☐ Never use foul or abusive language.
- ☐ Refraining from derogatory or demeaning comments or cheers.
- ☐ Do not approach, confront, or question a coach or an official before, during, or after a game. See athletic handbook on the "24 hour" policy.

Failure to adhere to the above will result in the following in this order:

1. A verbal warning from the administrator on site
2. Spectator or student will be escorted out of the facility at home or away games.

Any violation will be enforced throughout the school year, and a meeting with the Christian Chapel Academy Administration will be held prior to returning to another CCA Athletic event.

Acknowledgement Extra-Curricular Athletics & Activities Handbook

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the athletic handbook and the Student, Parent, and Spectator Code of Conduct. I have read the rules concerning eligibility and conduct for Christian Chapel Academy student athletes. I understand the rules and realize that I am subject to disciplinary measures should I violate them. I do agree to participate and conduct myself in accordance with the rules of our athletic program and with specific rules of my coaches.

We, the undersigned, agree that we have been given the following information and understand it fully.

- I. That the school agrees to provide:
 - A. Supervision
 - B. Instruction
 - C. Proper equipment (this excludes equipment or uniforms provided by the participant)
 - D. Proper safety precautions
- II. That the school abides by all written rules regarding behavior and safety
- III. That participating in athletics may cause serious injury or death

I have read the above statement of policy and agree to abide by the sportsmanship, citizenship/conduct, tobacco, alcohol and drug expectations. I understand that this agreement in no way limits my right to terminate or to be terminated from student activity participation.

Student Participant (Print Name)

Date

Signature of Student Participation

Date

Signature of Parent

Date