

PARENTS AND STUDENT ATHLETE:

Your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics. Your family's interest in this area of our school program is important. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences for every student athlete. It is our hope to maintain an interscholastic athletic program that is sound in purpose and honoring to God. Through participation in athletics at Calvary Christian School, student athletes will mature physically, emotionally, socially, academically, and spiritually.

A student athlete who participates in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of **self-discipline** and **self-denial**. Failure to comply with team or school rules of training and conduct, or failure to maintain academic requirements may mean exclusion from a squad. There is an expectation that each student athlete will discipline his or her mind and body for rigorous competition. We believe God calls us to strive for excellence and we do not want our student athletes to compromise or accept mediocrity.

Parents play a key and critical role in the overall success of their student athlete's involvement in athletics. It is important that all parents realize the importance of their commitment (role) in this area of their student athlete's life. Some individuals neglect their role, and as a result the student athlete may experience difficulty and frustration. In athletics, parents (family) provide many of the key elements for success.

CONDUCT OF A CHRISTIAN ATHLETE:

The conduct of a Christian athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that their behavior is above reproach in ALL of the following areas, ***Competition, Classroom, and Traveling***.

The tradition established by CCS athletics is to glorify God by winning with honor and losing with grace. We desire to win, but only if in doing so we honor God. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. When a student athlete wears the Blue and Silver of Calvary Christian School, he or she is willing to accept the responsibilities that go with representing the school. As a member of the CCS athletic program a student athlete is responsible to help build a tradition that is glorifying to God.

Responsibilities to God and Yourself:

Christians are ambassadors for Christ and the light of the world. As a member of an athletic squad from Calvary Christian School, the most important responsibility an athlete has is to be a representative of God. God has provided all of our student athletes with an awesome platform, athletics, to witness to others. As a Christian athlete you have a responsibility to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experiences. Your academic studies, your participation in other extracurricular activities as well as sports, help to prepare you for life as an adult.

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Calvary Christian School wants to stand out for Christ in all that we do. The challenge before the coaches, parents and fans is to understand how God's Word applies to this area of life and to learn how to apply the Biblical principles in a practical, life-changing manner.

Athletics play a huge role in today's society. The emphasis heard most often is the importance of winning. What does it mean to win or lose? Usually winning and losing are very simple. Score more points than your opponent and you win; score less points and you lose. Simply get it done any way you can.

In a Biblical sense winning would be acting and reacting like Jesus Christ in every situation presented to you. On the other hand, losing would be having a wrong reaction and not becoming like Jesus Christ in every situation presented to you. God sees winning as conducting yourself in all areas of your life the same way Jesus Christ would conduct Himself. Do all that you do with all of your heart, mind and soul trying to be more Christ-like. Think as if He is your main audience.

This does not mean winning on the scoreboard is not important. It just puts it in proper perspective. For a Christian, the purpose in life involves a relationship with God, resulting in allowing God's glory to reflect through his own life. A single, all-encompassing goal is to honor and glorify God even in athletic participation. The accomplishing of the goal is left in the hands of the athlete. The athlete is the one in control of his/her own behavior and attitude and is the one who determines his/her relationship to God. *Effort, teamwork, enthusiasm, compassion, humility* are all positive reflections of God working through one's life. If one's goal is to honor God, what kind of effort will that person give in practice and games?

What will be the reaction to an incorrect call by an official, or an unkind action by a teammate or an unfair decision by a coach? What will be the reaction to rude comments from fans of the opposing team, or derogatory words or actions by members of the opposing team? What will the reaction be to a lack of playing time or a tough loss? These are areas of life over which the athlete has control – effort, reaction and attitude.

It is the desire of the athletic department that every team or individual that competes for Calvary Christian School experience the thrill of winning games and of reaching ones full potential. More importantly, the goal of the athletic department is that everything done be honoring and glorifying to God.

SUPPORT AND COOPERATION

Understand that sports is a commitment for your whole family. Make sure this is really something your family can commit to and see it through to the end.

- Attend every contest that is feasible.
- Be positive and supportive without adding undue pressure and unrealistic expectations.
- Try to be objective.
- Avoid the syndrome of seeing your young person as the best player on the team or as faultless.
- Belief in and support of the coach's judgment, character, actions, strategy, and overall philosophy will help your student athlete do the same. In contrast, criticism and constantly questioning a coach's actions and overall program will likewise lead the student athlete in that way.
- The attitude and ideas communicated in the home will often be carried out in the heart and mind if the student athlete.
- To question is not necessarily to criticize. It's all in the frame of mind and the approach. Be tactful and positive.

- If an issue or conflict does arise, it is better to confront the issue in Love than to let it go and build up into unnecessary hard feelings.
- Be flexible whenever possible. Changes in times and schedules sometimes need to be made.
- Build up, rather than put down other team members. It is important that each one sees the other team members as a vital part of the team, regardless of their role or skill level.
- Be sensitive of those around you as you watch the contest. Being a parent of an outstanding player or a parent of a player who plays less often each holds it share of joy and pain.

Guidelines for Handling Parent/Coach Concerns

Generally the first responsibility is for the student athlete to work with the coach. A coach appreciates communication from the athletes regarding team and individual situations. A coach will not “hold it against” an athlete for wanting to talk about a situation. If a parent wants to speak with a coach about a concern it should be done at a suitable time or via an appointment. Confronting a coach before or after a contest is not an appropriate time. If the concern still exist after meeting with the coach, the concern should be taken to the Athletic Director and, or Principal.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Your role as a spectator is important. Support your student athlete, your team and your school in a positive manner. There are certain things that have become common in some arenas that are not acceptable at Calvary Christian School.

- It is important to make all guest at our school activities feel welcome
- All visitors should feel as though they have been treated fairly and dealt with in a sportsmanlike way.
- The skills of the visiting team should be recognized and appreciated.
- Everyone needs to work to create a positive atmosphere at CCS.
- The following behavior is not acceptable at any contest: booing, jeering, mocking, taunting and/or yelling negative comments at the officials.
- Never confront officials or other participants during or following a contest.
- If a problem occurs, inform the school administration and allow them to deal with the situation.
- The school administration (or their designee) has the authority to remove any person from the confines of an athletic contest for unsportsmanlike behavior.
- The school may also deny them the privilege of attending future contests.

Sportsmanship Statement

“It is the intent and responsibility of Calvary Christian School to promote good sportsmanship by student athletes, coaches and spectators. In order to encourage responsible behavior at all interscholastic athletic events, Calvary Christian School request your cooperation by supporting all participants in a positive manner. Profanity, racial or sexist comments, or any other intimidating actions directed at officials, players or coaches will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the site of competition. Please enjoy all events by encouraging your team to play their best”

GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY POLICY FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

1. ALL student athletes are to maintain a passing grade in all of their subjects. Any student athlete who falls below a 2.0 GPA (grade point average) in any quarter or semester or receives one “F” becomes ineligible to participate in any athletic practice or contest and is placed on academic probation until the next grading period.
2. Any student athlete who receives his or her second behavior report will serve a one game suspension. The student athlete will be allowed to attend the game for which he/she has been suspended.
3. Any student athlete who receives a third behavior report will be placed on disciplinary probation for two weeks. The student athlete will be allowed to practice with the squad, but may not participate in any games during their probation.
4. Any student athletes who receive a fourth behavior report will be released from the squad for the remainder of the season. The student athlete may not attend practices or be with the team on game days.
5. Any student athlete who receives a fifth behavior report will not be allowed to participate in any Calvary Christian School Athletics for the remainder of the current school year.
6. All student athletes are required to join and participate in the Bible and Prayer Club. Students who miss more than two meetings, without written parental excuse, will be placed on probation for a two week period. The student athlete will be allowed to practice, but may not participate in games during their probation.
7. If a student athlete is not on time to chapel or misses chapel, without written parental or staff excuse, will not be allowed to play in their next scheduled game.
8. All student athletes must attend all classes as scheduled. School begins at 8:30am and all students athletes are to be in their seats (not running through the door at the last minute) when the bell rings. Excessive unexcused tardiness (seven tardies in a quarter) will result in a probation period of two weeks where the student athlete must be on time for the entire two week period in order to be reinstated to the squad. If the student athlete has a parental or staff excused tardy during his or her probation period, it will not count against the student athlete.
9. Use of profanity, illegal drugs, alcohol, or disrespect to officials, cheating, unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting, obscene gestures or any other behavior not

becoming of a Christian will be grounds for removal from the current squad, and or CCS athletics for the remainder of the school year by the Athletic Director and Principal.

10. Extreme faddish hairstyles for male athletes such as tails, spiking, zippers, ponytails, corn rolls, twisties or mohawks are not allowed.
11. Students may be reinstated after their probationary period is over if they have met eligibility requirements. If a student has not achieved the minimum requirements at the end of their probation period, then the student will be removed from the team.
12. Students on academic or disciplinary probation who wish to participate on an athletic team must petition both the principal and athletic director for an eligibility extension, not to exceed one quarter, beginning or continuing (if already in season) the activity or sport.
13. All incoming student athletes (freshman and transfers) are eligible to participate in athletics at Calvary Christian School, even if the student has been accepted on academic probation, provided the student athlete's most recent grade report from sending school complies with CCS guidelines for eligibility. If a student athlete's grades do not meet these guidelines, incoming student athletes may petition the principal and athletic director for an eligibility extension.

Attendance

Students involved in extracurricular activities must be in attendance for at least four periods of the school day in order to participate in practices or games. Exceptions to this rule can only be granted by CCS administration. Parents and student athletes, please make every effort to schedule non-emergency medical or dental appointments so as not to conflict with practices or games. Notify the coach or athletic director as much in advance as possible if your student athlete is to miss a practice or game.

When a student athlete knows he or she is going on vacation, the student athlete should let the coach know immediately. A vacation is an excused absence from practices or games; however when the student returns, he or she is not guaranteed their previous position.

If a student athlete has an unexcused absence anytime during the school day, he or she will not be allowed to practice or play in the game that day.

If the student athlete quits a team, he or she will not be eligible for any awards for the team from which he or she quit. The student may not be allowed to participate in any other CCS sports teams for the remainder of the current school year as determined by the Athletic Director and Principal.

Athletic Clearance Form

This form is completed annually by all parents or guardians, and includes permission to participate in athletics, emergency information, insurance information, and contract agreement.

Please make sure we have up-to-the-date information on this form. It is the parent or guardian responsibility to provide medical insurance to cover all student athlete injuries.

Physical Examination

Student athletes will not participate or compete until he or she has submitted evidence of having a physical. Physicals must be dated after June 10th of the current school year on file in the main office. Please see the Athletic Director for clarification.

Classroom

A quality student athlete always strives to be the best student and to succeed academically. Time is carefully planned to provide sufficient energy for their studies to insure acceptable grades. At CCS, a student athlete must maintain eligibility standards his or her academic subjects. Failure to meet these standards will result in the student athlete being declared ineligible as per the "Guidelines and Eligibility Policy for Student Athletes" in the parent-student athlete handbook.

In addition to maintaining eligibility standards, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for students and faculty members at all times. When leaving a class be courteous and respectful to those around you (BE QUIET!) A Christian athlete should have a good attendance record and never cut classes or school.

Risk of Participation

Student athletes and parents must realize that there are inherent risks involved in athletics. By participating in athletics the student athlete and family acknowledge this fact and assume this risk. Calvary Christian School will conduct a student-parent mandatory meeting prior to the start of each season to explain the athletic policies and to advise, caution, and warn of the potential for injury.

Fee's, Equipment and Uniforms

A sports fee for student athletes will be assessed per season and/or sport. This fee is reviewed each year and may vary for each sport. All fees must be paid prior to the first practice or the student athlete will not be allowed to participate.

Equipment checked out to students athletes must be accounted for at the end of the season. Student athletes must return equipment to their coach no later than five (5) school days after the close of the season. If equipment is not returned the student athlete will be billed.

Uniforms are to be worn only for games or as designated by the coach. Student athletes are responsible for the care and maintenance of equipment provided for them as a member of an athletic team. Student athletes will be billed for all equipment not returned in good condition at the end of the season.

Additional Eligibility and Requirement Policy

SPIRITUAL GOALS:

Participation for God's Glory

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God .I Cor. 10:31

The Christian athlete must realize that all things should be done for God's glory. The Scriptures teach that God's glorified when Christians seek to please Him in their actions, attitudes, reactions, speech, and thoughts. The Christian basketball player's goal is to glorify God by performing as Christ would perform as a member of an athletic team.

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men. Col. 3:23

The Christian athlete can glorify God by performing to the best of her ability at all times. To do less than one's best is to dishonor God. The Christian athlete's goal is to glorify God by giving 100% to become the best athlete and team mate he/she can be.

An athlete who performs respectfully with good sportsmanship displays the power that Christ has given his/her over sin. The goal of the Christian athlete is to exhibit self-control, teamwork, and good sportsmanship. The athlete who has determined to display Christ like characteristics will achieve greater success, than an athlete whose life is a poor reflection of Christ.

The goal of the Christian athlete should be to exemplify Christ by displaying a life style parallel to Biblical teachings.

FINANCIAL GOALS:

FUNDRAISING

With the privilege of attending a private school you have the opportunity to participate in fundraising in order to off-set the cost of the fees that come with an organized athletics program. Therefore you will be required to be apart of each fundraiser that the sports program sponsors.

SOCIAL GOALS:

TEAMWORK

Team sports provide opportunities for individuals to learn to work together to benefit the team. Individuals should perform unselfishly to help their team to victory. Each athlete will begin to develop genuine meekness as he/she looks beyond himself/herself for the good of the team. The true team player realizes that success depends on joint effort and not on individual performance.

LEADERSHIP

An athlete is naturally viewed as a leader in the school. As a leader, each athlete is expected to maintain a high standard of conduct before the Lord and in the sight of the student body. Leadership is developed within each athlete as he/she sees his/her duty to live above reproach. The goal of a leader is to live by example in a spirit of service to others.

RESPONSIBILITY

Success in any sport requires a measure of personal responsibility on the part of each athlete. Each athlete is responsible to be appropriate in action, healthy in body, and positive in attitude. He/she should be prepared for practice, punctual, unselfish, and committed to the squad. The goal of a responsible athlete is to be a useful member of the squad.

ATTITUDE

Squad members should maintain a positive, right attitude at all times. Negative, cutting, or derogatory remarks serve only to demoralize the squad. Attitudes are most evident when athletes react to circumstances. Squad members should strive to keep a good attitude at all times, even when things are not going well. The goal of an athlete with a good attitude is to encourage others with positive, uplifting statements and to react in a proper manner, not letting circumstances dictate his/her feelings.

PHYSICAL GOALS:

Personal Fitness

Participation in athletics provides a means for squad members to learn the benefits of physical fitness. The goal of each athlete should be to establish and to maintain a healthy level of physical fitness.

Self-Discipline

Becoming physically fit requires personal self-discipline. The successful athlete will discipline himself/herself to take care of the body God has given him/her. The goal of each athlete should be to discipline himself/herself to eat properly, get adequate rest, and exercise.

ACADEMIC & BEHAVIOR GOALS:

Please see attached pages from CCS Athletic Handbook.

These are our expectations for our Christian athletes. If you and your son/daughter feel you are willing to try and abide by these goals, then we invite you to tryout for athletic teams this year!