



Presbyterian Christian Schools

Building upon a tradition of truth, honor & loyalty.

Athletic Handbook

Presbyterian Christian High School Athletic Handbook

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a Christian environment in which each individual has the best opportunity to reach their full potential as an athlete and as a young adult and to teach values and principles based on teamwork, responsibility, devotion and determination that are essential for the success of the team and the future of the athlete.

Our Philosophy

1. The athletic program at Presbyterian Christian High School (PCHS) is student centered and an integral part of the student's total educational experience.
2. Athletic achievement requires commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators.
3. The school athletic department and administration strongly believe in being accessible to parents and supportive to the coaching staff, and believe that effective communication is essential for success.
4. We constantly strive to improve the professional development of coaches, the addition and upkeep of facilities and the implementation of strength and conditioning. It is necessary that everyone understand the focus and direction of the program.

SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDE

The conduct of athletes must reflect the fact that they represent Christ and PCHS. In the athletic and academic arenas, athletes' behavior must epitomize a positive attitude, a strong work ethic, and Christ-like behavior. According to this code of conduct, athletes must:

1. Play hard and play for the love of the game.
2. Respect officials and accept their decisions without question.
3. Win without boasting and lose without excuses.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETE

An athlete is often respected and admired by the student body, spectators and children in the community. Concomitant with this respect is the responsibility to demonstrate good sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship can be shown by the following:

1. Remember that you are representing Christ, yourself, your school, your family, and your community.
2. Respect the integrity and the judgment of the officials.
3. Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by your coach.
4. Respect your opponents.
5. Display positive actions (Christian character, enthusiasm, and civility) in public at all times.
6. Athletes will attend every practice session and game unless excused by the coach. Unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action, perhaps dismissal from the team. Tardiness will also result in disciplinary action.
7. Athletes will be dressed and ready for practice/games on time.
8. Team/player selections based are on: attitude, grades, talent and “coachability”. Announcements will be made as to the date and time of all tryouts.
9. Possible consequences for sportsmanship or conduct violations as well as failure to fulfill athletic responsibilities could result in suspensions or removal from the team.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FAN

Spectators at an athletic contest have an important role in displaying good sportsmanship. As a group, your actions may have the biggest impact on how others see the reputation of your school.

Fans should:

1. Compliment student-athletes in their attempts to improve and learn.
2. Respect both players and fans of opposing team.
3. Know the rules of the game and cheer good performances.

4. Never confront an official/umpire before, during or after a contest.
5. Never confront visiting teams, coaches or fans before, during, or after a contest.

Violations of these rules of conduct could lead to forfeiture of the contest, the school being placed on probation and fined or the parent/fan being denied access to future contests and or fined by the MPSA.

ATHLETIC LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging responsibilities. By establishing and understanding each position, we are able to accept the actions of the others thus enhancing communication. As parents you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from your coach.

Communication You Should Expect From the Coach

1. Pre-season team meeting for every sport.
2. When and where practices and contests are held.
3. Changing in schedule and/or practice and game locations.
4. Expectations the coach has for your child and the team.
5. Procedure if an injury occurs during participation.
6. Team requirements/rules for participation.
7. Notification whenever any disciplinary action results in your child being denied participation in a practice or game.

Communication Coaches Expect From Players

As students become involved in athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to also understand at times students may experience disappointment and frustration. At these times, student-initiated discussion with the coach is recommended and encouraged.

Parents/Students Should Notify the Coach Concerning

1. Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance.

2. Any specific health concerns.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches

1. Any unhealthy mental or physical strain you detect in your child at home.
2. Ways you can contribute to your child's skill improvement and development.
3. Any dramatic changes you detect in your child's behavior.
4. Treatment of your child, mentally and physically.

Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy or play calling.
3. Other student athletes.

Procedure to Follow If You Have A Concern To Discuss With A Coach

Make an appointment for the parent, student athlete, coach and athletic director to meet to discuss the concern. If after meeting with the athletic director the issue has not been resolved, a meeting may be setup with the principal.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PHYSICALS - Each student must have a physical before he or she begins practice. Students may get a physical from a private physician. However, PCHS routinely sets up physicals at a facility in the area at no charge to the athlete.

PRACTICE - All athletes are expected to attend practices called by the coach. Practices will be scheduled in accordance with MPSA guidelines.

GAME DAY DRESS – During the school day, athletes adhere to the school dress code or wear designated attire.

TRAVEL DRESS – When students report to games, they should be appropriately attired. Coaches will determine appropriate attire.

AWARDS CEREMONIES - Junior Varsity and Varsity Award Ceremonies are held to honor the athletes. An Award Ceremony will be hosted by each sport. These are scheduled through the coach and athletic director. Students “dress up” for these occasions. Boys wear slacks, dress shirt and tie or team shirt; girls wear dresses or nice skirt or slack outfits.

COMMUNICATION – Student athletes are under the direct supervision of a superior coaching staff. It is important that the athlete communicate directly with the coach. If a parent would like to talk with the coach or has a concern, he or she may contact the specific coach by calling the PCHS office at 582-4956. Coaches have teaching responsibilities throughout the day and return phone calls as soon as possible.

PCHS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS – Student athlete must pass all subjects (required or electives) each nine weeks with no more than one D and at least a C average in all other classes.

NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE – Any student athletes interested in participating in a college athletic program must be cleared in advance by the NCAA Clearinghouse (for details on processing and current requirements check with our college counselor). This process should begin your junior or early senior year.

BOOSTER CLUB

PCHS has an active Booster Club. The members of the Booster Club serve in the capacity of giving both organizational and financial support to the PCHS athletics. The Booster Club welcomes all parents of student athletes participating in programs at PCHS as well as other interested parents and grandparents who have a desire to assist PCHS athletics.

Booster Club members are expected to serve the athletic program, among other duties, by either working at taking gate or selling concessions at home games. Call the PCHS office at 582-4956 for more information.

FUNDRAISING – The Booster Club will create a yearly fundraising strategic plan and submit this plan to the school board for approval. The purpose of this policy is to facilitate school-wide planning and budgeting.

NOTE: Nothing in this handbook is intended to contradict any policy set forth in the PCHS Student Handbook. If anything in this handbook appears to contradict any policy set forth in the PCHS Student Handbook, the policy in the Student Handbook overrides.