



Athletic Department Handbook

Northville Christian School

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Athletic Opportunities	3
Athletic Program	4
Philosophy	4
Objectives	5
Academic Policy	6
Athletic Dress Code	7
Athletic Procedures at a Glance	8
Attendance Policy	9
Behavioral Ineligibility	9
Booster Club	10
Equipment Policy	10
Game & Practice Day Pick-up	10
Maps and Schedules	10
Permission Slip and Physical	11
Siblings and Friends	11
Sports Fees	11
Sportsmanship	11
Student Contract	12
Tournaments	12
Transportation Policy	12
Website	12

Athletic Opportunities

Fall Sports

		Grades
Co-ed Soccer	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th
Girls Volleyball	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th
Girls Cheerleading	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 TH 5 th , 6 TH
Girls Basketball	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th
Boys Volleyball	Varsity	6 th - 8 th
Co-ed Dodgeball	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th

Spring Sports

Track & Field	1 Team	5 th - 8 th
Co-ed Softball	Varsity Junior Varsity	7 th , 8 th 5 th , 6 th
Co-ed Golf Clinic	Clinic	K-8 th
Boys Baseball	Varsity	7 th , 8 th

Athletic Program

The athletic program at NCS plays an important role in the development of community. Sports can **enhance an individual's relationship with God**, aid in the growth of healthy bodies, interpersonal relationships, personal maturity in handling challenges and simple life enjoyment.

Students in grades fifth through eighth are given the opportunity to participate in a sport of his/her choice through competition with other schools and some intramural sports events. Co-ed soccer, boys and girls basketball, cheerleading, co-ed softball, girls and boys volleyball, as well as baseball and track are the sports now being enjoyed by students. TGA Golf is available for grades K-8. Chess Club is offered for grades 3rd-8th.

Athletics are expected to learn and exhibit a Christ-like spirit, good sportsmanship, a wholesome attitude, loyalty among the students, and cooperation within the school community.

It is our goal to allow every student who chooses to sign-up for a sport to be accepted on the sport of their choice. However, in the event that there are more students than open positions on a specific sport team, students will need to qualify for that sport through try-outs.

Philosophy

Our philosophy must stem directly from the school's Christian philosophy of education. The ultimate goal is for each athlete to "be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ" (Rom. 8:29) and to develop the spiritual part of the athlete so that the Holy Spirit is in control directing his mind and body (1Thess. 5:23).

Our goal is that athletes develop positive Christ-like character qualities that can be expressed through athletics. Athletes are confronted with all types of life situations, which are opportunities for applying biblical principles.

It is the job of the parents and coaches to properly direct athletes in these situations in order to build vital character qualities.

Athletics should help foster vital relationships among team members, promoting the team concept, and utilizing the direct leadership of the coach.

There should be a commitment to excellence in each particular sport. “Do heartily as unto the Lord” (Col. 3:23). At the varsity level, playing time is under the discretion of the coach.

Athletics are an aspect of the educational program, not the main focus. The student’s academic life is a priority. Students make a commitment to excel in his/her chosen athletic pursuit while maintaining the academic standards of a Northville Christian School athlete. Students are also committed to pursuing the goal of becoming a well-rounded individual, striving toward his/her God-given potential in each area of his/her life.

The athletic program must provide well-balanced inter-scholastic activities for as many participants as possible, consistent with available facilities, personnel, and financial support.

The athletic program will be planned so as to present a minimal amount of interference with the academic program. We desire to involve the student body, parents, and friends.

Objectives

- 1) Develop each participant’s knowledge and use of fundamental skills.
- 2) Foster each **athlete’s** moral, social, personal, and spiritual development.
- 3) Encourage each athlete to extend himself/herself to the best of his/her ability.
- 4) Develop positive relationships within and outside the school community in support of the athletic program.
- 5) Promote the values of physical fitness and health.
- 6) Emphasize teamwork and sportsmanship.
- 7) Promote the ability to accept defeat graciously and victory modestly.
- 8) Teach the value of commitment.

Academic Policy

Students must have a minimum grade point of 2.0 for the preceding nine-week marking period in order to be declared eligible for sports participation. Students who do not have this minimum grade point average will be declared ineligible.

Students must maintain an average of 73% in all of his/her classes to remain eligible to participate. If a student's average falls below 73% in any subject, the student can participate on a limited basis only. For these situations, the following procedure will be followed:

- 1. The Coach or Athletic Director will meet with the athlete individually and discuss the importance of maintaining their grades to be eligible to play sports.**
- 2. The parents will be notified.**
3. The athlete may participate in all practices during the probationary week.
4. The athlete cannot play in the first half of games (home or away) for one week.
5. At the end of the week, the athlete's grade will be computed. If it is 73% or higher, he/she is reinstated with full status. **If any grade falls** below 73% by the end of this one-week period, the student will be placed on Academic Suspension and the parents will be contacted by phone.
6. An athlete placed on Academic Suspension may not participate in practices or games. His/her time and energy should be used in studying. At the end of one week, the student's grades will be computed. **If all grades are** 73% or better, the student will be reinstated with full status. A grade below 73% **in any subject** will result in the athlete being declared ineligible for the remainder of the season.

Teachers **should** notify the Athletic Director when a student receives **72%** or lower in any subject **or falls below the minimum grade point average of 2.0**. Teachers **should not** wait until the end of the **marking period** to provide such notification. Upon notification, **the Athletic Director will initiate the above steps**.

Athletic Dress Code

Practice Day Attire: Athletes should dress **modestly** and in comfortable workout clothing. Tee shirts do not have to be tucked in during practice time. If there is a picture or slogan on a tee shirt, it must promote wholesome, traditional values. **Shorts or sweat bottoms with slogans or any spandex or yoga pants are not permitted. The length of shorts must be within 3 inches of the knees.** A coach can determine if practice clothing is inappropriate and decide not to allow the athlete to participate in practice for that day.

Game Day Attire: Girl athletes may choose to wear a royal blue or white uniform polo **shirt underneath their sports uniform top** with dress code pants. Boy athletes may choose to wear a shirt and tie with dress code slacks or the royal blue or white polo shirt underneath their sports uniform top with dress code slacks. If an athlete decides to not wear game day attire on the day of the game they will be required be in dress code.

Athletic Procedures at a Glance

Early Dismissal - If there is a sibling that needs to be dismissed early, it's the parent's responsibility to have the child sent to the office. You must sign out the player, sibling, and anyone that maybe carpooling with you at the front Receptionist desk.

Transportation – You are responsible for your own transportation to away games.

Uniform Cleaning – Please wash in cold water and line dry.

Academic Policy – Please read within the Athletic Handbook.

Dress Attire – Please make sure your child is modestly dressed. No shorts with slogans on the back and the length of the shorts **are within 3 inches of the knee**. Please make sure the slogans on t-shirts are appropriate and no tied t-shirts. **Yoga pants, spandex or tight fitting clothing are not permitted.**

Absences – If your child is going to be absent from practices or games, please contact the Coach or Athletic Director **before the practice or game**.

Practice Pick Up – Please be 5 minutes early picking your child up from practice. This is out of respect for the coach and his time. If you are late, your child will be sent to Kids Club and you will be charged.

Concession Stand - **As part of your child playing a sport, each parent is asked to work one shift at the concession stand, scorebook, scoreboard, or plan/supervise the end-of-the-season party for each sport season that your child participates in. Parents can opt out by paying an additional \$40 to NCS per season.**

Kids Club – Kids Club is available between school and practice at a minimum fee. If your child goes to Kids Club after practice, there will be a charge. Please fill out the appropriate paperwork and write “Sports” on top of the paperwork to receive the discounted fee for those hours preceding practice.

Sports Physical – All players must have a physical. If you have one scheduled after the season begins, please sign the Sports Physical Waiver and indicate the date of the appointment. This form is located on the school's website.

Parental Response - Enjoy the game and enhance the experience by providing your child with humble wisdom. Teach them to be gracious in victory and in defeat. Sports can instill nobility in kids or self-centeredness. It is our choice. America has developed some destructive beliefs that have placed sports above character and self-control. The coach or referee may make a decision you disagree with, but how we respond to the disappointment will teach a life lesson that will be remembered long after we forgot about the game.

It is our plan to give every student time to play in the game. During games that are very close, we will probably play the most skilled players. No child wants to remain in the game if it means a loss. **Many athletes have expressed in the past that they enjoy playing time but not at the expense of losing the game.** They understand the skilled players will take precedence. Student athletes need their parents to calmly guide them to learn that disappointments are often useful in teaching life's most important lessons.

Attendance Policy

All athletes are expected to be at all scheduled practices and contests. Any absence must be pre-arranged with the Coach and/or Athletic Director. Absenteeism may affect the athlete's standing/position with the team. Continued, unjustified, unexcused absenteeism will result in suspension from the team.

Students must be in **attendance a minimum of 4 hours of the school** day to participate in practice or a game. All exceptions must be discussed with the Coach and/or Athletic Director.

Students absent from school **more than 4 hours** or unable to participate in PE cannot be involved in sports after school. If they are contagious with a virus they cannot come to practice. If it is an injury that prohibits them from participating in PE, then they cannot participate in a sport. They can observe without physically participating. Any exceptions to this policy must be discussed with **the PE teacher and Athletic Director**.

Athletes are required to attend practices. **If an athlete misses a practice, they will not start in the next game. If an athlete missed three practices and/or games, the athlete will not be allowed to play in the next scheduled game. If an athlete accumulates three tardies, this will be counted as one absence. If an athlete continues to miss practices/games, ineligibility will be considered for the rest of the season.**

Occasionally, participation in athletics requires that the student be dismissed early from a class. The athlete is responsible to have his/her academic work completed or prior arrangements made with the teacher before he/she is dismissed from class. Students must not leave earlier than the time announced.

Students serving an in-school or at-home suspension are excluded from attending practices or games on those days.

Behavioral Ineligibility

Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege that may be lost when a student consistently defies authority or commits a serious breach of conduct. A student may also be found ineligible if his/her behavior and/or cooperation in class is found unacceptable by at least two of his/her classroom teachers. After consultation with the student and staff members involved, the administration may declare a student ineligible to participate for a period of one week or until there has been a significant improvement

on the part of the student. Parents will be notified of such ineligibility. **Without prior approval, no one is allowed to use electronic devices on NCS property before, during or after sporting events, with the exception of calling a parent/guardian.**

Concession Stand, Bookkeeper & Scorekeeper

As part of your child playing a sport, each parent is asked to work one shift at the concession stand, keep Scorebook, run Scoreboard, or plan/supervise the end-of-the-season party for each sport season that your child participates in. Parents have the option of opting out by paying an additional \$40 per sports season. Each family will be sent an email allowing them to pick a shift(s) that works with their schedule. After a week, if they have not opted out, the Athletic Director will assign the remaining parents to a shift. Parents are responsible to work their assigned shift or switch with another parent to avoid the additional \$40 fee. Proceeds raised from the concession stand help pay for the referees for home games and purchase any additional uniforms or equipment needed.

Equipment Policy

Uniforms remain the property of the school while they are on loan to the athlete. The Athletic Director will issue game uniforms to athletes at the beginning of the season. Unless otherwise stated, uniforms will be laundered at home in cold water and hung to dry. **A replacement fee, varying by sport, will be charged if the uniform is returned damaged, stained/dirty, or not returned.**

Game & Practice Day Pick-up

Athletes who are not picked up immediately after games or practices will be escorted to Kids Club and all fees will be applied. If the athlete is not picked up by 6:00 p.m., there will be an additional late fee charge of \$12.00 for each fifteen minutes of lateness. For the safety of your child they are not allowed to be left alone or wait for parents outside of Kids Club.

Games Schedules and Locations

Games schedules and school addresses will be available on the NCS website or RenWeb. Any changes in practices, games, tournaments, etc will be communicated via email and/or parent alerts by the Athletic Director. Information is also posted and updated on Sports Bulletin Board located just outside the school office.

Permission Slip, Physical and Concussion Forms

All athletes must have a signed **concussion form, permission slip and current physical to participate in any practice or game. Athletes with difficulty meeting the physical deadline** must have a *Physical Waiver Form* on file. All permission slips, Concussion forms and physicals must be turned into the school office prior to the first practice.

Siblings and Friends

Siblings and friends, accompanied by a parent, are encouraged to come to the games and support the team. Students are not allowed to have siblings and friends present during practices. Students without a parent present following the games or practices will be escorted to Kids Club by the coach and all fees will be applicable. In no case will unsupervised siblings or friends be permitted at any athletic event.

Sports Fees

All athletic department forms and sport fees must be turned into the school office by the first practice or the student will not be able to participate in practices or games. Sport fees cover the cost of the coaches and officials for that specific sport. Uniforms will not be issued until fees are paid.

Sportsmanship

All parents, coaches, and athletes are expected to demonstrate appropriate sportsmanship at all athletic events. There is a correlation between sportsmanship and a positive Christian testimony. As the saying goes, "we may be the only Bible others read." This should always be considered in athletic competition. Great sportsmanship, 100% effort, and a positive Christian testimony should be shown at all times on the athletic field, floor, and in the stands by athletes, coaches, and parents.

Student Contract

Parents and students must read and sign the student contract. Contracts will be kept on file in the school office.

Team Sport Gatherings

All team sport gatherings need to be approved and scheduled by the Athletic Director. Gatherings cannot conflict with certain school-wide events. Adult supervision needs to be present at the gathering, including an approved school representative. No pool parties are permitted.

Tournaments

Since tournaments are entered into with the idea of fielding a competitive team, no guarantee of playing time will be given to any athlete.

Transportation Policy

Each athlete is responsible to provide his/her own transportation to and from all practices and games. Parents must make arrangements in advance for their child's transportation with another parent. Do not assume that a teammate or coach can provide transportation. The person who is providing their transportation must sign out all athletes leaving early for an away game in the school office. Written permission authorizing another adult to transport must be on file.

Website / RenWeb

The NCS website or RenWeb will be available to get forms, view schedules, and obtain addresses to the away games. The school website is www.northvillechristianschool.org.