

# *Code of Ethics for Fans*

Spectators are an important part of the game and should at all times conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship.

Spectators should at all times respect the officials, coaches, and players

Enthusiastic and wholesome cheering is encouraged.

Booing and disrespectful remarks should be avoided at all times

Bells, whistles or noise makers of any kind are not acceptable for use during a game.

During a free throw, there should be absolute quiet.

## **GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL Athletic Handbook 2012-2013**



**"Sportsmanship is Won by All but  
Lost by Only One."**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Athletics. It is my hope that through participation in the sports offered by Grace Lutheran your child will grow in their love for sports and develop their God given athletic talents.

Grace offers sports opportunities in all grades, Pre-kindergarten through 8th grade. We offer teams in soccer, volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, indoor soccer, T-ball, and track. There is a sport for everyone at Grace.

The information provided in this handbook will explain how the sports program will be administered and governed. All parents and students are expected to read and understand these policies and procedures.

Our program cannot run without parental support. We need parents that are willing to take on the challenge of coaching our teams, to transport students to and from practices and games, to be committed to our program and give the program the priority that it deserves. We need parental help with concessions during the games; running the game clock; keeping the score book and cleaning up after the games. Many parents are needed to ensure that the program runs smoothly.

Information about our sports program can be found on the school's website by clicking on the athletics tab. This is also where you can find information about game schedules, practice times and other important information.

If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding our sports program, please feel free to contact me.

Alan Cypher  
Athletic Director

## 19. Practice Attire

Students are expected to change into appropriate clothing for sports practices. Students should not wear what they wore to school to practice in the afternoons. While there is no special required clothing, the following should be taken into consideration when choosing clothes to wear at practice.

- ◆ No spaghetti strap tops. Sleeveless tops that have wide straps and appropriate sized arm holes are allowed
- ◆ No bare midriffs
- ◆ Shorts should be of appropriate length for the sport.
- ◆ No writing on the back of shorts.

The athletic director reserves the right to make final determination on appropriateness of the attire.

In order for our students to participate in this tournament, they are required to be housed with host families. Grace students who are participating in the tournament are not permitted to stay at hotels.

While the tournament is primarily for our 7&8 grade teams, students in grade six may be asked to participate in the tournament if they are members of one of the older teams.

## 18. Fee schedule

Athletics at Grace Lutheran is a self-sustaining program, which means that all funds needed to run the program need to be raised by the program. Athletics does not receive any funds from the school's general budget. These funds come from four sources;

- 1) Participation Fees: These are paid for each sport which a student participates in. The exception to this are for those that are participating in both cheerleading and basketball. For these students they will only pay the basketball fee.
- 2) Gate Receipts: Monies received at home games for volleyball and 5—8 basketball games.
- 3) Concession: Monies received through the sale of items at home games at the concession stand.
- 4) Sweatshirts & T-shirts: Yearly themed items sold to the entire school body.

Fees for 2012—2013 school year.

1. Volleyball	\$50.00
2. Soccer	\$50.00
3. Cheerleading	\$50.00
4. Basketball	\$75.00
5. Indoor Soccer	\$50.00
6. Track	\$50.00
7. T-ball	\$50.00

## GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY 2012-2013

Since 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 states that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, we desire to develop and maintain those temples. Athletics is a means to that end. Thus Grace Lutheran School engages in athletic competition for the following reasons:

- ☺ To further develop athletic skills to the fullest of God-given talents.
- ☺ To promote Christian sportsmanship and fellowship among all concerned (teammates, opponents, referees, coaches, fans etc.).
- ☺ To promote respect for and acceptance of authority.
- ☺ To provide opportunity for cooperation with other individuals in a team effort.
- ☺ To enjoy participation in athletics now and in the future.
- ☺ To learn self-control in emotional situations.
- ☺ To learn acceptance of victory and defeat.

**MAY ALL THAT WE DO AND SAY BE TO THE  
GLORY OF GOD!**

"Sportsmanship is Won by All but Lost by Only One."

## GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC POLICIES

### 1. ATTENDANCE AT PRACTICES AND GAMES

If a student misses a practice without an excuse, (Coaches/ Athletic director must be notified prior to the event.) he/she may be suspended from the next regular game. Students with excessive absences from practice and/or games may be removed from the squad at the discretion of the coach and athletic director.

For practices that start immediately after school, students are to wait in the Assembly Room/Choir room till either their coach or the Athletic director takes them to the gym. For practices that start at 4:30 or later, students are to be taken home and returned to school no earlier than fifteen minutes before their practice is scheduled to start. Students may stay at school for practices that start after 4:15, but these students must be enrolled in our After School Child Care Program and pay applicable fees. For these students, their coach will come and pick them up from ASCC.

Parents are expected to pick up or arrange for their child to be picked up no later than 15 minutes after practice is scheduled to end. For practices that end prior to 5:30, parents may request that the coach send their child to afterschool care. Also the players that are not picked up in a timely manner will also be sent to ASCC. In both cases parents will be responsible for any charges incurred.

### 2. BEHAVIOR IN TRANSPORT

If a student is reported as behaving in a disruptive manner during, in route to, or returning from any athletic activity, he/she will be benched for 1/2 of that game or the next..

against the agitator of the washer. The uniform should be hung up to dry or placed in a dryer on low heat.

If the uniform is lost, damaged or not returned with in a week of the end of the season a charge equal to the replacement cost of the uniform will be added to the students account. If the uniform is later found and returned in usable condition, the students account will be credited with the amount paid.

Soccer players will be issued a pair of game socks, these socks the student my keep at the end of the season.

Any additional uniform parts such as volleyball socks, or pregame attire must have approval of the athletic director prior to these items being purchased.

### 18. Regional Lutheran Basketball Tournament.

Each year our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball teams and the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> cheerleading squad have the opportunity to participate in the Regional Lutheran Basketball tournament with four other Lutheran schools. The other schools involved in the tournament are: Concordia Lutheran, Marrero LA; Atonement Lutheran Metairie LA; First Lutheran, Knoxville TN; and St. Stephens Lutheran, Hickory NC. This tournament moves from school to school each year. The teams leave on a Wednesday and return the following Sunday. The tournament is a round robin format so each team will play four games while in the tournament. There is also a cheer-leading competition during the tournament. In addition to the games the group will also visit sites of interest in and around the host city.

At the tournament the players are housed in groups of at least two stay with a family from the school hosting the tournament. This is often one of the more memorable parts of the tournament for our students. Long lasting friendships are often established by this.

## 16. Concerns

If during the season a problem arises or you have a concern about something that goes on during practices or a game you should follow this procedure:

- A. Speak directly with the coach.
- B. If the problem is not resolved then contact the athletic director.
- C. If the problem is still not resolved a meeting will be set up with you, the coach, and the Athletic director.
- D. If the problem is still not resolved then contact the principal.

If something happens at a game/match that causes you serious concern you may send the athletic director an e-mail with your concern and he will look into the concern. Remember that that it is best if you first talk to the coach to seek a resolution to the problem.

If you have a concern about something that happens at another school involving the other school you need to contact the Grace's athletic director first who will in turn discuss the situation with the other schools athletic director.

## 17. Uniforms

Team uniforms are issued to the players for the duration of the season. It is the responsibility of the player to return the uniform within one week of the end of the season. The care of the uniform is the players responsibility.

The uniform should be turned inside out when washed so that the lettering and numbers do not rub up

## 3. TRANSPORTATION TO AWAY GAMES

Parents are responsible for transporting their students to away games and matches. For some contests that occur further away then Madison, when possible, the school bus will be used to transport the team to the event.

In the event that another parent is transporting your child to the game and you are picking them up, it is the parents responsibility to be at the site to pick up their child within 15 minutes of the end of the game.

## 4. SICKNESS/ABSENCE ON GAME DAY

If a student is sick on game day, he/she will not be allowed to participate in that evening's game or practice. Students must be in attendance at least ½ of the school day in order to play. If a student goes home sick from school at any point during the day of an athletic event, he/she may not return that evening for the event.

If a student misses school the day before a Saturday game it will be up to the coach's discretion after contacting the parents about the student's absence whether the student can participate

## 5. SPORTS SIGN-UP/PARTICIPATION

Any student choosing to play for a Grace team must be committed and registered as an active player on the team by the signup date published in the E-crusader. Any student wishing to join thereafter will not be permitted to do so.

Any student who enters Grace school after the said deadline and wishes to join as an active player on the team may do so through permission of the athletic director.

## 5. HOMEWORK

Students will be evaluated at mid-quarter and end of quarter to determine their athletic eligibility. Students will be held accountable to the published eligibility policy. (Policy may be found on the Athletic web site.) Grace Lutheran School reserves the right to deny the opportunity for a student to participate in our athletic program because of academic or behavioral difficulty.

## 6. APPAREL ON GAME DAY

It is expected that the student athlete dress appropriately on game days. Athletes are to follow the school dress code and represent the school well when visiting other schools. Athletes are not permitted to wear uniforms to school on game days.

When a coach specifies game apparel for a specific sport, it is expected that members of that team will dress accordingly. If a coach has not specifically designated game day apparel, then students are expected to dress in normal school dress code. Failure to abide by this policy can result in the student being benched for part of that days game. We expect that the student's parent(s) will see that the student complies with this policy. It is also important that the athlete represent himself/herself well to the younger students at Grace Lutheran.

## 7. SCHOOL PRECEDENCE

All Grace Lutheran School athletic activities will have precedence over community or other functions during that activity. As conflicts arise in schedules, please feel free to work them out with the coach or athletic director.

## 8. PHYSICALS

Each athlete will need to have a physical form/card from the physician prior to participating in any athletic practice or

practice while working to improve their grades

3. If a student receives three or more failing marks on an evaluation they will be suspended from the team for the next evaluation period.
4. While a student is suspended from a team they are not allowed to attend practices nor are they allowed to attend games that are played either at home or away.
5. If a student who is suspended from a team receives any further failing marks during that season, they will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season. This means that they will not be eligible to receive any end of year awards or be able to count this towards their eighth grade award

## 15. Playing Time.

Our goal at Grace is that all students participate during games. However this does not mean that all players have equal playing time. On teams that involve grades prekindergarten through fourth grade sports are deemed developmental programs. This means these teams are meant to teach the players the basic skills of the sport and all players get a chance to play in all games, unless there is a disciplinary reason for a player not playing. At this level we do not, as a league, keep won/lose records and do not sponsor post season tournaments.

When the players advance to grades five and above, the emphasis shifts from developmental to competitive. While the coaches are still encouraged to give everybody playing time during all games, there may be times when this is not possible.

academic studies.

To help in reaching these goals, eligibility procedures have been developed that govern the participation of students in all extra-curricular activities. All students in grades 3-8 need to have an eligibility form on file with the athletic director before they may participate in any extra-curricular sports activities.

The following areas are looked at when determining eligibility: If it has been determined that a student is not living up to these standard in any of their class subjects they will give the student a failing mark on their evaluation.

1. Using his or her abilities to do the best he or she can in ALL classes. This includes core curriculum, art, religion, music, band, foreign language, computers, and physical education.
2. Turning in all assignments when they are assigned unless arrangements have been made which are acceptable to the teacher involved.
3. Bringing to class DAILY all materials which are needed for complete participation in that class.
4. Behaving in the classroom in a way that demonstrates proper respect for adults in authority, as well as showing appropriate respect for fellow classmates. This means behaving in a manner which would be pleasing to God.

#### Consequences

If a student receives one or two failing marks on an evaluation, they will be placed on probation till the next evaluation.

1. If after being placed on probation the student on the next evaluation or any succeeding evaluation during that sports season a student receives a failing mark then they will be suspended from the team for the next evaluation period.
2. While on probation a student may continue to play and

game associated with Grace Lutheran. Students without completed physical forms will not be permitted to participate in any type of practice or game.

Physicals are good for one year. In order for he physicals to be good for the entire school year the physicals dated no earlier then the first of June prior to the start of the school year

Physical forms should be completed and turned into the Athletic director or school office before participating in practices and games.

## 9. SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

In an event that there is a school cancellation due to severe weather, all athletic practices, home games for that day are also cancelled.

Away games for that day depend on the visiting school. Parents will receive notification via the school alert system about the cancellation of away games. Cancellations will also be posted on the school's Athletic Web Site. Parents are asked to not call the school any earlier then 2 pm for cancelation information.

## 10. TEAM ROSTER

The team roster for each athletic activity at Grace is determined on an annual basis by the principal and the athletic director. The following information is used to determine if an athletic team will be formed:

- A. Volleyball—minimum 7 players
- B. Soccer—minimum: PK-2, 5; 3rd & 4th, 7, & 5th—8th 9 players
- A. Basketball - minimum 7 players
- B. Cheerleaders—minimum 5 cheerleaders
- C. Indoor Soccer—minimum 7 players

- D. T-Ball—minimum 11 players
- E. Track—minimum 10 runners

## 11. BEHAVIOR

While representing Grace Lutheran, it is expected that all athletes will show good sportsmanship and follow the "Athletic Code of Conduct". This code of conduct is to be shown towards; the officials, their opponents, their coaches, and their teammates. Players who fail to do this can be suspended from the event they are participating in as well as the next event.

**ANY PLAYER WHO RECEIVES A RED CARD, A TECHNICAL FOUL RELATING TO AN UNSPORTSMAN LIKE ACT OR IS OTHERWISE REMOVED FROM A CONTEST BY THE OFFICIAL WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE ABOVE STATED PENALTY.**

Spectators are also expected to behave according to the stated code of Conduct. Spectators that cannot follow the stated code will be asked to leave the facilities.

## 12. SPORTS AWARDS

### A. TEAM AWARDS

All players that complete the season will be awarded a team T-shirt at the end of the season.

### B. 8th GRADE AWARDS

In the spring of their 8th grade year all 8th grade students who have participated in two sports for at least two years or one sport for three years (they must participate in at least

one of these sports during their 8th grade year) will receive a plaque.

## CHRISTIAN ATHLETE AWARD

This award is given to an eight grade student(s) at the annual awards presentation. The determination of this award is based on the attributes listed on the certificate. The athletic director will make the final determination in consultation with the Principal and input given by the coaches and Middle School Faculty. If it is determined that there are no qualified students, then the award will not be presented that year.

## 13. Huntsville Independent School League Member Schools

Covenant Christian Academy  
 Excalibur Christian  
 Grace Lutheran  
 Holy Family  
 Holy Spirit  
 Madison Academy  
 Randolph  
 St. Ann  
 St. John  
 Whitesburg Baptist

## 14. Eligibility Procedures

At Grace Lutheran we have two main goals.

1. The first is sharing the love of Christ with our students and teaching them to live in ways that are pleasing to Him.
2. The second is for the students to learn to apply themselves to the best of their abilities in their