



Athletic Handbook

2009-2010

Mission Statement

Cathedral Academy partners with families to provide a quality academic, Biblically-based education to equip both parents and students to impact their culture for Christ.



Cathedral Academy is a ministry of Cathedral of Praise

Athletic Department Statement of Purpose

Cathedral Academy is committed to the whole student – Body, Soul, and Spirit. The Athletic Department recognizes its role in this process. While a sports program necessarily focuses on physical health and agility, the Athletic Department at Cathedral Academy steadfastly holds to and reinforces vigorously the Academy Mission Statement.

Athletic Policies

Cathedral Academy is committed to helping our students learn and grow as followers of Jesus Christ. Learning to serve and sacrifice in humility and to develop good work habits will help them grow in character, wisdom, and discernment.

Athletic and physical activity is an integral part of a student's development. The Academy encourages students to participate in some form of physical activity everyday. As part of Cathedral Academy's mission of developing a balanced lifestyle, Middle and Upper School students are encouraged to participate in whatever sport is in season rather than to specialize in one sport for the entire year. A student should discuss athletic participation with parents and coaches prior to embarking upon the rigorous schedule required for sporting events. Parents of student athletes are expected to serve in all activities sponsored by the Athletic Department, including the Booster Club, volunteering in the concession stand, at the ticket gate, or wherever parent volunteers are needed.

To be eligible for practice or participation in interscholastic athletic contests, a student must have a medical examination by a physician once every 365 days. A special form (Cathedral Academy Athletic Physical Form) is available in the Office. This form must be properly completed, signed, returned, and placed on file in the Office prior to the student's participation in any sport.

Students, parents and other fans are expected to display a proper attitude of sportsmanship toward teammates, coaches, opponents, fans, and officials regardless of winning or losing the contests.

Parents as Coaches

Parents are certainly welcome to volunteer as coaches, scorekeepers, etc. Parent Volunteers must pass a background check and must be recommended by the Head Varsity Coach of that particular sport. The names of Parent Volunteer Coaches are then submitted for approval to the Athletic Director and the Head of Schools. If at all possible, it is preferable that the Parent Volunteer Coaches work with groups or positions other than where his or her child is playing.

Coaches Dress Code

Head coaches of all sports are to see the Athletic Director or Head of Schools for appropriate dress code for coaches at contests.

Program Goals

The Academy maintains a program of interscholastic competition for boys and girls in grades 5-12 through our membership in SCISA Athletics.

As a member of a team each student will:

- receive instruction that helps develop his/her ability for God's glory.
- be disciplined and trained in leadership.
- be encouraged to promote Cathedral spirit, unity, and pride.
- be encouraged to demonstrate Christian character on and off the field of competition.
- be encouraged to abide by the Code of Conduct and Ethics of Cathedral Academy and SCISA.
- be prepared to compete for SCISA State Championships.
- be equipped to vie for NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, and NCCAA athletic scholarships.

Eligibility

Any student who wishes to participate in interscholastic athletics must meet these criteria:

1. have a current sports physical form on file in the Athletic Office on or before the first day of practice for any sport.
2. meet academic and attendance standards set forth by Cathedral Academy and SCISA.
3. meet behavioral standards set forth by Cathedral Academy.
4. be enrolled as a student.

Code of Conduct and Ethics

It is the duty of all concerned with athletics at Cathedral Academy to consider:

Our Speech

Colossians 4:6 “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt...”

1. Questionable language or “slang” words will not be tolerated. The student athlete will never engage in any language that can be termed “trash talking” or use profanity or questionable slang.
2. The student athlete will address the coaches and officials with respect. The student athlete will address the coach as “Coach” or “Mr., Miss, or Mrs.” and will take concerns or complaints directly to him or her. Insubordination and divisive speech or behavior will not be tolerated. The student athlete will address officials as “Sir” or “Ma’am.”
3. Never criticize the officials or coaches. These people represent the authority figure, “boss”, parent, teacher, and “Law.” Obedience to authority is not optional and is not predicated on whether or not you agree with it. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God.

Our Relationships

John 15:12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

1. Develop relationships and a good rapport with teammates and coaches. God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. You have an opportunity to develop life-long friendships. If sports become all about you, you need not participate.
2. Develop relationships and a good rapport with classmates. Do not attempt to set yourself upon a pedestal. Your classmates will not respect or support you.
3. Develop relationships and a good rapport with students from other schools. Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others.

Our Unity

I Corinthians 12:12-13 “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...”

1. Develop unity within your team. “*It is amazing what can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit.*” John Wooden
2. Develop unity within our school family. God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us has different abilities and, therefore, different roles. Never be jealous or envious of someone else’s role. Be busy fulfilling your role.
3. Develop unity within the Kingdom. We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to further the Kingdom of God. It will take other Christian schools being successful. Pray for them as you pray for Cathedral Academy.

Our Motives

I Corinthians 10:31 “...do all to the Glory of God.”

1. Be motivated by the love of God. Athletes must live for Him because He died for us.
2. Strive for victory in order to glorify God. Athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself.
3. Demonstrating Christ in our lives by abiding by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit. Tactics that promote unfair “gamesmanship” will not be tolerated.
4. Committed to excellence. All areas – faith, practice, academics, and game preparation must reflect a commitment to excellence.
5. **Play and act like a CHAMPION!**

Our Behavior

I John 2:6 “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

1. The athlete will maintain a good reputation. The athlete’s character must be in good standing with the administration, faculty, staff, and church.
2. The athlete will meet all eligibility requirements.
3. The athlete will know and understand all requirements. The athlete must know all of the expectations of their team and will follow them both in action and in spirit.
4. The athlete will show respect for all coaches, trainers and all staff personnel. This includes the game plans, methods, and philosophies.
5. The athlete will show respect for their teammates. The athlete must respect the seriousness of their commitment by attending all practices, meetings, and games as prescribed at the beginning of the season and by working together to accomplish a common goal. Help to hold your teammates accountable for their actions.
6. The athlete will maintain a high standard of appearance. Both in and out of the arena the athlete must adhere to the strictest interpretations of the school dress code and the team dress and uniform code.
7. The athlete will demonstrate Christ-like character. It is expected that both in and out of the arena respect will be shown in speech and actions for game officials, opponents, and all those associated with our opponents.
8. The athlete will never engage in fighting. The athlete must maintain self-control at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct penalties will not be tolerated and will be penalized. Penalties include, but are not limited to, suspensions or dismissal from the team.
9. The athlete will know and understand our philosophy. The athletes must respect the eternal effects of their speech and actions as they represents themselves, their families, their school, their church and ultimately their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

SCISA Code of Conduct

Article XIII – Section 1:

PHILOSOPHY: The South Carolina Independent School Association believes that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. High standards of behavior, scholarship, and citizenship are important to a sound athletic program. Students volunteering to participate in athletics must assume the responsibilities of this privilege and are required to meet these expectations. Moreover, adults shall be models of good sportsmanship and will lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control. Athletes, coaches, officials, and fans shall at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner. Each person will be responsible for his/her words and actions at all SCISA athletic events and will need to follow the standard set by the Code of Conduct.

SCISA Eligibility Rules: Student

Article VI – Section 1:

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IS A PREREQUISITE TO PARTICIPATION.

- A. A student in grades 9-12 must take and pass at least four (4), one unit CORE Courses or any five (5) one unit courses, each grading period (6/9/12 week) or semester to be eligible. Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester. A senior who has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation must pass four (4), one-credit courses each marking period/semester. *Note: A student must have earned 4 core units or any 5 units of credit to be declared eligible at the start of a school year. Also, credits or courses taken by the “Home School” method are not eligible for athletic eligibility determination.*
- B. A maximum of two credits earned during summer sessions may be accepted from an accredited school.
- C. A student may use college credit courses for eligibility purposes provided the student has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation. A maximum of one (1) correspondence course per school year may be used for eligibility purposes.
- D. A one credit course is a course taken for 36 weeks, one period each day for a minimum of 45 minutes or the equivalent. A course taken each day as above for 18 weeks would be a half credit which when combined with another half credit course would be the equivalent of a one credit course. A course taken for 36 weeks but only three, 45 minute periods each week would not be a one credit course. *Note: A one credit course taken for 18 weeks shall meet for one period each day for a minimum of 90 minutes or the equivalent.*
- E. Core Courses: Those courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, computer science and foreign language that are recommended by the Commission on Higher Education and are common to SCISA schools.

Article VI – Section V:

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY BELOW GRADE 9

- A. Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester to be eligible for the next grading period.

- B. A student must have passed the previous school year to be eligible for athletic participation the first grading period.
- C. A student who repeats a grade below the ninth grade after having passed that grade would not be eligible during the year that is repeated. A waiver may be considered following the presentation of appropriate academic documentation detailing the school's recommendation for repeating the grade.
- D. All students must comply with the age requirements and grade level restrictions for each level of competition.

Sources consulted:
 Prestonwood Christian Academy, Plano, TX
 ACSI 731 Chapel Hills Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80920-1027
 SCISA, Orangeburg, SC 29116

Please remove the bottom section, sign, and return to Cathedral Academy Athletic Office.

Athlete/Parent Agreement of the Cathedral Academy Code of Conduct:

I have read and understand the Code of Conduct as explained in the Athletic Handbook and agree to abide by its principles and guidelines at all Cathedral Academy sporting events. I fully understand I may not participate without a signed copy of this document on file in the athletic office.

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date