

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

PARENT'S ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Thank you for allowing your child to participate in our extracurricular activities with St. Francis of Assisi School. Our goal is to shape the individual in all areas of life: spiritual, social, intellectual and physical. **The issue is not who wins the game, but what is learned from competition.**

Athletic Mission Statement

The athletic program of St. Francis of Assisi School provides children the opportunity to learn about sports in accordance with the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Vision and Beliefs Statement

We believe that the athletic program of St. Francis of Assisi School:

- Allows Catholic Identity and Values to be the most important aspect of any sports program.
- Expects adults to model to young people high standards of Christian Ethics in sports.
- Allows an athlete to learn the fundamental skills of the game.
- Establishes opportunities for athletes to enjoy their sports experiences.
- Is an educational endeavor.
- Believes that winning is secondary to the learning process as it pertains to sports.

CABRINI SPORTS WEBSITE

We will be using www.CabriniSports.com to communicate information in a timely manner. On this site, the parent will be able to sign their child up for sports, download handbooks, forms, and season schedules among other benefits. We will be sending fewer notices home about athletics and will expect parents to visit the website regularly for needed information. You may also sign up for the email newsletter on this site.

PARENT MEETINGS

There would be a mandatory parent meeting before each season. The meetings would be held on 2 different days of the week and the child must accompany the parent to these meetings. Children of parents who do not attend one of the athletic meetings will not participate in sports.

PLAYING TIME

All players will play a minimum of one quarter of the league contest or match at all levels. For basketball, this would be 6 minutes per game. The goal of any athletic program is to provide each student as much time to participate as possible. The coaches are accountable for giving their players as much playing time as possible. Player's fundamentals are developed during practice, not during games.

TEAM SELECTION

Teams are divided into even teams by the head coaches and/or the Athletic Director after a minimum of two practices where the coaches will rate the player's skill level. No assistant coaches will be determined until the teams have been decided. Our goal when selecting teams is to balance the talent level evenly therefore giving all the teams a fair chance to compete during the season.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Our programs in the St. Francis of Assisi Schools are not possible without parents volunteering their valuable time when supporting their child (ren's) programs. The parents are expected to help in various areas throughout the season. Your child's coach or Booster Club advisor will help guide you in where you can help. Some coaches in the past have had one parent step up and become the "team parent" who would be in charge of this type of organization. The way it is handled goes a long way in how the season goes and how smooth the tournaments run. The league playoffs at the end of the season need ALL parents to help out at some time throughout the playoffs.

COACH SELECTION/EVALUATION

Coaches interested in volunteering their time will first fill out the online application and become Virtus approved. Then by looking at their application, calling their references along with participating in an interview with them, the Athletic Director will come to the determination if they fit into our philosophy about education and athletics. Once they have accepted to volunteer their time to coach, the Athletic Director will evaluate them through observations, surveys from parents and players and the impact they have had on our educational environment. The Athletic Director will also perform mid-season performance reports for each coach to give immediate feedback on the coach's performance. If the coach is found to have unacceptable performance, they may be asked to no longer continue to help in that position.

Coaches are asked to work with "every" player in the program. The best coordinated and the least coordinated player on each team is of equal importance and should be given equal attention and encouragement.

SCHOOL DAY EMERGENCY CANCELLATION

If school has been cancelled due to weather or other emergencies, there will be no practices or games taking place that day or evening.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

The missing of practice time and game time will be dealt with by the head coach. The Athletic Director or Middle School Principal will oversee any issues with excused and unexcused absences. If a player is sick and absent from school on a day of a practice or game, that player may NOT participate in that game or practice. If the player is sick on a Friday, it is up to the parents if the player plays on the weekend.

PRACTICES

One of the primary concerns of each school coach should be the safety of every member of the team. The number of injuries incurred by our athletes will be held to a minimum when the coach is there to teach and generally supervise. Each athlete's family is responsible for transporting their child to and from scheduled practices and home and away games. No athlete is to be left on school property without an appropriate adult chaperone. This includes practices (before and after) and games (home and away). Please be prompt in picking up your child from practices. Anytime you would like to stay and watch practice, you are more than welcomed.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship is a vital component to the success of any athletic program. The parents play an important role in teaching respect. The parents must be positive in their approach to the players, coaches, opponents, and officials. The students learn from their parents and follow their lead when it comes to sportsmanship. At St. Francis of Assisi, there are situations where we have more than one school team and they must compete against each other at some point in the season. It is important that you cheer for your team, but please **DO NOT CHEER AGAINST OTHER CABRINI TEAMS.**

Parents are not to confront the head or assistant coach on the day of a game in a negative manner. If parent's behavior forces the referee to remove the parent from the gym, the penalty will be an automatic 1 game suspension from attending the next contest and must schedule a meeting with the Cabrini Campus Principal and the Athletic Director before they will be allowed to attend another game.

CONDUCT CODE FOR COACHES, FANS, AND PLAYERS

1. An unsportsmanlike technical foul on a coach, fan, or player will result in a one game suspension for the first offense. After one game suspension, the offending party will meet with the Cabrini Campus Principal and Athletic Director regarding the situation and future consequences.
2. Fans that show negative behavior will be asked to leave for the remainder of the game and will be subject to step one above.
3. Coaches are to call the Athletic Director the day after the game if there is any inappropriate conduct from coaches, players, or fans. The Athletic Director will follow up on these communications with contacting the person responsible for the inappropriate conduct. The Athletic Director will make recommendations on a course of action once the report is made. Coaches bear responsibility for the conduct of their fans.
4. Reports from other schools or referees present at Cabrini games will result in the procedures as listed in step three above.
5. Members of the school staff and Booster Club at times will observe fan, coach, and player conduct at designated games during the season.
6. Players who receive four demerits during the designated season of participation will sit out for one game and practices. Students who receive six demerits during the season of participation will result in permanent suspension from the individual sport and subsequent sports the remainder of the school year.
7. The Athletic Director and Cabrini Campus Principal reserve the right to revise the Athletic Code of Conduct at anytime.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY ACADEMIC STANDARDS

In order to be a participant in good standing the student will:

1. Maintain a 2.0 GPA.
2. Have no failing grades.
3. Complete work for classes when due. This takes into account the extra time given to those out for sickness.
4. Must be in attendance in school for the entire day. Exceptions are excused absences other than illness.

FALL AND SPRING SPORTS

Option C will be checked on Wednesday to determine students' eligibility for participation. Option C will be checked every four weeks starting in late September. Teachers will also notify the Athletic Director or principal by note if a student is not meeting academic requirements for his/her classes. If a student is not in good standing, he/she will be suspended from practice and participation in the activity for two weeks. During this time, the student should work on becoming eligible to participate in practices and games. Should the student fail to become eligible, the student may not participate further in that sport.

When a student has regained eligibility, a reinstatement form will be signed by the teacher(s) and given to the Athletic Director. No student may be considered eligible until the reinstatement form is received by the Athletic Director. This is for all activities. The principal(s) will check Option C for grades.

WINTER SPORTS

Students must meet academic requirements in order to be eligible to participate when the season begins. Option C will be checked every four weeks. Teachers will notify the Athletic Director or principal by note if a student is not meeting academic requirements in his/her classes. If a student is not in good standing, he/she will be suspended from practice and participation in the activity for two weeks. During this time, the student should work on becoming eligible to participate in practices and games. Should the student fail to become eligible, he/she has two more weeks to work toward eligibility. If a student does not meet eligibility after a total of four weeks of suspension, the student will not participate.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Academic eligibility must be met by all students participating in extra curricular activities. Students will be subject to the same standards as winter sports. A student may not participate for the rest of the quarter if they have not regained eligibility within the four week suspension. They may be reinstated at the beginning of the next quarter if they meet the eligibility standards. Should the student be unable to maintain academic eligibility for a second quarter, the student will not be able to continue in extra curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. The extra curricular activity code applies to students in grades 5-8.

TOURNAMENTS

During the season, each team may enter various tournaments around the area. The St. Francis of Assisi Booster Club will pay the entry fee for the tournament. The maximum number of tournaments each team can enter varies. On the 5th & 6th grade level, each team may enter 2 tournaments during the season. On the 7th & 8th grade level, each team may enter 3 tournaments. The league playoff at the end of each season is NOT a tournament, therefore does not count against the number of tournaments a team may enter.

No Cabrini teams will be permitted to play other Cabrini teams in a tournament outside of the Cabrini gym. The league playoffs will be played as they are part of the season long league. Cabrini teams may enter whatever tournaments the head coach chooses. No Cabrini team will be allowed to enter more than one tournament per weekend. Head coaches are NOT to ask the league to change scheduled games to accommodate weekend tournament games. There would be NO playing time rules for tournament games.

FORMS DUE PRIOR TO PRACTICE BEGINNING

Before an athlete is permitted to take part in a practice session, a parent shall complete and return the St. Francis of Assisi Athletic Agreement Form and Activity Fee to the school office.

The Athletic Agreement Form and Activity fee grants the athlete permission to participate in his/her sports. The parent will sign the form, and the check is made payable to “St. Francis of Assisi School.” The fee is \$20.00 for each sport.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Ruedinger at St. Frances Cabrini Middle School at 683-6884 ext. 1846 or visit www.CabriniSports.com and complete the feedback form.

**St. Francis of Assisi School
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