

# CHRIST THE KING ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Updated for the 2017-2018 School Year

## **I.MISSION STATEMENT**

Christ The King Lutheran School provides a Christ-centered, developmental and challenging practices to equip students for lifelong sports appreciation and being able to participate in high school.

## **II.FOREWORD**

The Apostle Paul says, "You know that at sports all the runners run the race, though only one wins the prize. Like them, run to win." (1st Corinthians 9:24). Naturally, we want the desire to win to be found in all those participating in athletics at Christ The King but this sense of winning is different than found in other organizations.

Students will be winners when they strive to be the best they can be by doing the best they can do to the glory of God. We have positive expectations that those who participate in Christ The King athletic programs will find enjoyment and success.

It is upon this Foundation that our Athletic Handbook is written. It is a tool to help the student athlete remain faithful while growing in Jesus Christ, and be a fitting participant in a worthwhile athletic program.

## **III.ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

The athletic program is to support the mission and core commitments of Christ The King Lutheran School (CTK) by providing positive athletic experiences for as many children as possible, in an environment where each child will have an opportunity to participate and excel. Each coach and, assistant coach, will support the school's philosophy and adhere to all policies as stated by the athletic director, administration, and principal advisory committee. Coaches and assistant coaches will make a commitment to place primary emphasis on each child's development and growth.

## **IV. CORE COMMITMENTS**

1. To provide a strong Christian environment, based upon Biblical and Lutheran theology.
2. To offer a high-quality, academic experience that prepares students for future success.
3. To provide a holistic and exceptional co-curricular experience.
4. To promote a sense of community among students, parents, faculty and staff.
5. To reinforce families as the primary focus where Christian faith and values are shaped.

## **V. OBJECTIVES**

1. Athletics provide the athletes/coaches an opportunity to grow into a closer relationship with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

2. Athletics provide athletes/coaches an opportunity to witness for Christ by their actions.
3. Athletics provide athletes/coaches an opportunity to accept decisions and responsibilities in a Christ-like manner
4. Athletics help athletes/coaches develop a positive attitude as well as team/school spirit among the participants.
5. Athletics help students develop physically, giving them satisfaction in accomplishment.
6. Athletics help the student develop emotionally – thus learning more about their strengths and weaknesses.

## **VI. ORGANIZATION**

The coaching staff is directly responsible to the Athletic Director(s) for conducting the athletic program. The Athletic Director(s) is responsible to the Principal for the total conduct of the athletic program.

## **VII. Next Play Mentality**

“Remember Not the Former things, nor the things of old.” – Isaiah 43:18. “Next Play Mentality” (NPM) is a concept, which teaches athletes to look forward, rather than looking on the actions of the past. During a game or activity, athletes make mistakes. The NPM teaches to look forward to the next play, rather than dwelling on the play that just happened. NPM teaches all involved in sports to care for opponents, officials, and other fans. The NPM concepts can be applied to both sports and to life.

Christ The King Lutheran School Athletic Department emphasizes the importance of The Next Play Mentality to athletes, coaches, and parents. The coaches will teach this to their teams and do their best to make it part of the team culture.

## **VIII. Athletic Code of Ethics**

It is the duty of all concerned with athletic activities:

1. To encourage and promote friendly relationships and good sportsmanship by requiring courtesy and good behavior at all times.
2. To encourage and promote positive race relations, cross-cultural understanding and human rights with respect to race, culture, ethnicity, gender, ability, lifestyle, diversity and religion.
3. To insist upon implicit compliance with all rules and regulations.
4. To recognize good sportsmanship is as important as victory, by approving and applauding good team play, individual skill, and outstanding examples of sportsmanship and fair play exhibited by any team or athlete.
5. To take special care to treat visiting teams and officials as guests, extending every courtesy.
6. To be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
7. To respect the judgment and integrity of referees, judges and other officials, realizing that

their decisions are based upon game conditions as they observe them.

## **IX.ATHLETICS**

Our athletic program is separate from the physical education program at our school and was established to encourage Christian fair play, sportsmanship, physical fitness, and self confidence.

Sports for boys and girls are offered throughout the year and they are as follows:

### **GIRLS:**

Cross Country Grades 4 – 8

Soccer Grades 4 – 8

Volleyball Grades 5 – 8

Basketball Grades 5 – 8

Cheerleading Grades 5 - 8

Track and Field Grades 5 – 8

Softball Grades 5 – 8

### **Boys:**

Cross Country Grades 4 – 8

Soccer Grades 4-8

Basketball Grades 5-8

Track and Field Grades 5-8

Volleyball Grades 5 – 8

Softball Grades 5 – 8

Final say on participation is based on roster needs. Grade level may be amended to ensure adequate rosters. Administration makes final decision on grade level participation.

## **X.ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES**

### *a. Co-Curricular Eligibility*

Participation in Co-Curricular activities at CTK is a “privilege” each student enjoys, rather than a “right”. In order for students to realize their full potential they must commit to a lifestyle that promotes a Christian attitude toward others, along with physical and mental fitness. Therefore, the following Eligibility policy has been established to guide students who represent CTK in co-curricular activities, clubs, and organizations.

Students in grades five, six, seven, and eight are subject to this policy. Fourth grade students may be subject to the policy, or an alternative program/policy, at the discretion of the Principal.

The parents and coaches are to determine if a student is living up to their potential in the classroom. At any time a parent or coach may withhold an athlete from a game or practice due to not giving their full in the classroom. (added 2016/2017)

### *b. Attendance*

Being part of a team is a commitment to your school, coaches, and teammates. Taking on the role of student athlete carries with it responsibilities. Attendance at all meetings, practices, and games must be a priority for all athletes.

The school attendance policy impacting athletics is as the following: Student must be in school at least a half day to be eligible to play in the game that day. If a game(s) fall on Saturday or

Sunday, student must be in school at least a half day on Friday to be eligible to play in those game(s). If there is no school on Friday (due to weather or planned day off), it will be up to the coach and athletic director to determine eligibility of play.

The practice attendance policy for each team is developed by the athletic director and coach. The coach outlines the attendance policy to the players during the first week of practices. If a student athlete will be absent from a scheduled team activity (e.g. meeting, practice, or game) the parent/guardian must provide the coach with a written explanation prior to the absence, as to why the absence will occur (a phone call, or text would be expected in the case of short notice but must be followed up by written documentation).

#### Excused vs. Unexcused Practice Absence

1. Failure to notify the Coach of an absence will result in the absence automatically being classified as unexcused.
2. Absences due to conflicting school sponsored activities will automatically be classified as excused, written documentation is not required from the athlete's parent/guardian (Please be sure that the coach is aware of schedule conflicts between the school activities).

Students that miss a practice before a game or have unexcused absences will a)not start in the next game and b)have the possibility of not playing depending on the coach's discretion.

## **XI. PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

### *a. Pre-Season Meetings*

Prior to the beginning of each athletic season a meeting will be held by the Athletic Director. The meeting consists of the administration outlining procedures and rules of the athletic department. The meeting will be concluded with team meetings with individual coaches in which coaches will outline their philosophies and expectations for the upcoming season.

1. Attendance is mandatory.
2. If a parent/guardian is not able to meet with the coach and athletic director, an alternate time will be set by both coach and parent/guardian.

### *b. Athletic Expectations and Permission Slip*

The parent and the athlete must read and sign the Athletic Expectations and Permission Slip in order for the athlete to participate. The permission slip will detail sport related information.

### *c. Volunteering*

Throughout the sports season, parents are needed to volunteer their time to assist with the scoreboard, scorebook, concessions, and admission for regular season games and tournaments. Parents/Guardians are expected to assist with these activities throughout the season.

1. The Athletic Director will provide means for volunteers to sign up for our volunteer

positions. Parents/guardians will be asked to sign-up for different positions throughout the season. The Athletic Director will request a certain number of “signups” depending on the number of athletes participating on each team.

2. If a parent/guardian of an athlete does NOT sign up, the Athletic Director will assign family slots where needed.

3. Individuals under the age of 18 are not allowed to help in the volunteer areas unless under director supervision of their parents.

4. A volunteer fee will be held on file until volunteer spots are completed. See Permission Slip for individual sport fees. The fee can be transferred between one season to the next. You may write a check, use cash, or it will be billed to your Gradelink (added for 2017-2018 school year) account. The office will then pull out this money from your next payment (tuition, lunch, extended care, or ect.) As soon as you complete your volunteer spots, you will be refunded, asked to transfer to next season, or it will be moved back to your payment.

#### *d. Game Travel*

It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to transport athletes to and from games, including tournaments. The school is not responsible to transport.

#### *e. Fees*

One time fees will be applied to each sport throughout the year.

#### *f. Sports Physicals and Forms*

Sports Physicals are REQUIRED prior to participation in games. Sport physical or waiver is required prior to participation in practices.

## **XII. COACH’S RESPONSIBILITIES (WLAL BYLAWS)**

The coaches for all member schools of the Western Lutheran Athletic League will be held to the following code of conduct:

1. Teach and display a Christian attitude at all times.
2. Teach the skills necessary for every student to improve.
3. Treat players, opposition, referees, and parents with respect.
4. Set a positive example for the students to model.
5. Be prepared for practices, games, and tournaments in order to model responsibility.
6. Display a healthy lifestyle for the students to model.
7. Understand that all students are different and desire different wants and needs.

## **XIII. PLAYER’S RESPONSIBILITIES (WLAL BYLAWS)**

Any player who becomes 15 years of age by January 1 will be not ineligible for any sport during that school year and thereafter. Age exceptions will be handled on an individual basis by the unanimous approval of the athletic directors.

All players shall act in a sportsmanlike manner while on or near the playing area before, during, or between games. Failure to do so may result in ejection from the game. Student athletes will be held to the following code of conduct:

1. Demonstrate a Christian attitude at all times – on and off the playing field, at home and school, winning and losing.

2. Treat coaches, opponents, teammates, and officials with respect.
3. Be an encourager. Never tear down; always build up.
4. Take care of your body spiritually, physically, and mentally. Remember your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and should be treated as such.
5. Strive for excellence in all you do. Realize the importance of giving 100% effort at all times – in practice as well as games.
6. Take care of all other schools' equipment. Respect the other schools' property as if it were your own.
7. Be a team player. Athletics is a great expression of unity. There is no "I" in TEAM.

Examples of poor sportsmanship are as follows:

- a. Disconcerting actions or words.
- b. Derogatory remarks to officials or to opponents.
- c. Questioning or trying to influence officials' decisions.
- d. Showing disgust with officials' decisions.
- e. Using insulting language, insulting gestures, or goading actions which engender ill will
- f. Making any contact with an opponent which is deemed unnecessary and which incites rough play.
- g. Using any part of a teammate's body or any object to gain physical support for advantage in playing.

#### **XIV. Individual Sport Rules**

Christ The King and the WLAL follows The National Federation of State High School Associations rulebooks except for the variations and particulars referred to in the WLAL Bylaws and Rule-Book. NFS Rulebooks can be purchased from the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

#### **XV. MAPS TO GAMES**

Refer to the CTK Website or get directions from the office for all away games and tournaments.