



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL ATHLETIC POLICY

Athletic programs at Holy Cross are meant to be a fun experience with an emphasis on respect and faith throughout the programs. This policy has been developed by the Holy Cross school board to insure there is a consistent policy in place for all of Holy Cross's athletic programs.

Please read the policy with your child, sign the bottom of the page and return it to school.

Participation Requirements and Expectations:

No student will be allowed to play in a game or tournament until this form is returned along with all applicable fees (\$50.00 per student/per sport) and tuition is up to date.

If the student is sick, they must be in school by 11:00 a.m. in order to participate in practice or a game that day. For weekend games or tournaments, the student must follow the school policy of being 24 hours symptom free to participate in the tournament.

The student must maintain an acceptable academic level to participate in athletics at Holy Cross. The student must have at least a C- or above in every class to participate. If the student is below this level, they will not be allowed to participate in an athletic activity until the Holy Cross Administrator and/or the Athletic Director allows them to based on improved grades and/or through an assessment and forming an improvement plan by the Holy Cross Staff and the parent(s).

Participation in 5th and 6th grade level athletic programs at Holy Cross is meant to teach the fundamentals of a particular game to all the students who choose to participate and for all to have fun. To that end, in the 5th and 6th grades, every attempt will be made by the coaching staff to have equal amounts of playing time for every student, regardless of ability. This includes tournaments.

Participation at the 7th grade level will be a transition from playing for fun to more of a team emphasis. The expectation is that there will be equal playing time at the beginning of the season through mid-season. At mid-season, there may be assigned starters, at the coaches discretion, who may have more playing time for the remaining games, however, all players should see at least some play time in each game in the 7th grade. If a game is one sided (either for or against), the coach is encouraged to play the non-starters as much as possible to maintain other players interest in the game. The exception to this rule is in tournament situations where the playing time will be left to the coach's discretion.

At the 8th grade level there may be a team structure in place with starters identified in an effort to win more games throughout the season at the coach's discretion. If there is a shortage of 8th grade players, younger players may be asked to play on the 8th grade team. At this level, all athletes should understand a non-starter player might not get to play in every game. However, the coaching staff is still encouraged to play every player in every game, if possible, particularly in a one sided game. The starting team structure includes tournament situations.



Conduct Expectations:

Holy Cross is a Catholic school and our athletes represent not only our school, but our community and faith values as well. We expect each athlete to conduct him or herself to a high standard of respect for self and others along with good sportsmanship at all times when participating in athletic programs. This expectation is both on and off the playing field.

Inappropriate behavior and/or talking back to referees, coaches, parents, or opposing team members will not be tolerated at any grade level. If a student is observed in such activities, they will be:

1. First offense - benched for the remainder of that game or tournament.
2. Second offense – benched remainder of game and next two (2) games or tournaments.
3. Third offense – will not participate in that sport for the remainder of the year.

There will not be a refund of fees should this occur.

If a parent is observed berating the referees, coaches, other parents, or the opposing team, they will be asked to leave.

If the athlete has an unexcused absence from practice, they will not participate in the following game or tournament. Three unexcused absences and the student will not participate for the remainder of the year in that sport.

If the athlete uses any kind of illegal substance, he/she will be suspended for the entire season.

Student Name (printed): _____ **Date:** _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____