

# Calvary Christian School



## Athletic Handbook

### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Calvary Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## LETTER FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dear CCS Parents/Guardian and Prospective Student-Athletes,

Welcome athletics at CCS! This handbook is designed to provide information about the Calvary Christian School athletic programs available to you. It also serves as a guide for all athletes, parents and coaches. The CCS Athletic department offers a competitive athletic program with a focus on winning with integrity so athletes may exemplify Jesus Christ on the field, court or course. Our athletic program provides a microcosm of the real world through sports, which encourages student athletes to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and to develop into men and women who will be Christian leaders in the world.

Calvary Christian School has been an active member of the KHSAA (Kentucky High School Athletic Association) since 1998, NKAC (Northern Kentucky Athletic Conference) since 1999, and KCAC (Kentucky Christian Athletic Conference) since 2012. Here at Calvary we offer the following varsity level sports: Boys/Girls Archery, Baseball, Boys/Girls Basketball, Cheerleading, Boys/Girls Cross-Country, Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Soccer, Softball, Boys/Girls Swimming, Boys/Girls Tennis, Boys/Girls Track, and Girls Volleyball.

CCS Athletics will strive to provide an excellent sports program that will allow and encourage our student athletes to develop their God-given abilities. I want the CCS athletes challenged to do his or her very best with their God-given talents for the glory of God and the good of the team. Competing to win is emphasized, without sacrificing the display and the development of Christ-like character. Athletic training and competition provide numerous opportunities to instill Biblical principles, such as subjecting oneself to authority, working together as members of a team, and controlling the impulses that often arise in competition.

Together with Cougar's exceptional coaching staff, parents, student-athletes and supportive administration, I am confident we can build on the strong sports foundation already in place and take CCS Athletics to new heights!

Go Cougars!!!

Jeremy Leach  
Athletic Director  
Calvary Christian School

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## ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

In Colossians 3:23 the Bible says, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not unto men." This means that in all areas of the Christian life, we are expected to do our best for the glory of God. As Christian athletes, we have a unique opportunity to allow the world to see Christ in our actions and attitudes on and off the playing fields and courts. Our character in athletics is a reflection of our families, our school, and most importantly, our Savior.

CCS Athletic Guidelines will be followed by all athletes. All parents are expected to support CCS standards and goals for the overall development of our program. We appreciate each family and their support to CCS through prayer, participation, and the commitment to our future. Just as God gave everything He had and sent His Son, (John 3:16) so we must give our all for the work of Christ.

## ATHLETIC PURPOSE

"Athletic abilities are a gift from God, how you use them is your gift back to God." The purpose of athletics is more than physical education or competition for trophies and awards. Its purpose is to train each aspect of our lives for God's service. Athletics must instill dependability, honor, a good work ethic, endurance, and a desire to improve each aspect of one's life. Philippians 4:8 states, "whatsoever things are of good report we are to think on these things."

The athletic purpose is to reach students in a way that may not be accomplished in the classroom. Athletics compliments the classroom by teaching the athlete to set goals, challenge their abilities, and motivate them beyond the normal activities of school life.

## ATHLETIC FEES

The purpose of the sports fee is to provide for the needs of the athletic program. The sports fee is required of all athletes for each sport that they participate in. The sports fees are set aside for athletic uniforms, athletic transportation, and other athletic purchases. The sports fee for each fall, winter, and spring sport is as follows:  
\$150 for students playing at the Freshman, JV, or Varsity Level  
\$120 for students playing at the Middle School Level  
\$90 for students playing at the elementary level.

## ATHLETIC CONDUCT

Athletics at Calvary Christian School is a very important part in the training of our young people. Christian character is required in the testimony and attitude of our athletes. Our athletic program is just one of the means for developing well-rounded individuals. CCS has made the commitment to excellence through the construction of facilities, employment of personnel, and the planning of activities to provide variety for our young people. Parents have made the commitment to excellence through time, money, and efforts to benefit their young people.

As Christians, our goal is to maintain a Christ-like attitude before others. We are to be a witness and testimony for the Lord. Athletes must be devoted to achieving high academic standards far above the guidelines in the handbook. Athletes must be devoted to leading a Christian life that is separated from the world. We want our athletes to be Christian examples and leaders in the school and in our world. Prayerfully consider your commitment and devotion as you consider participation in CCS athletics.

Calvary Christian School is pleased to offer a variety of athletic teams. In keeping with the intent and value of Christian School Athletics, we ask that all players, coaches, and spectators maintain exemplary Christian behavior at all times. Those not complying with this request will be approached by the Administrators, the Athletic Director, or any other CCS personnel and be asked to cooperate. Those declining will be asked to leave the premises. Please help make our athletic program enjoyable for everyone. Thank you.

## ATHLETIC AGE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

**Elementary Instructional Sports-Soccer, Basketball and Baseball**-all elementary students are encouraged to participate in the Instructional program. These sports will focus on the fundamental skills and cultivate an interest in the sport provided. This is a teaching program, which will focus on the instructional aspects.

**Middle School Sports**-the goal of the MS sports is to provide a competitive opportunity for each student to participate. Tryouts will be held only if there are too many trying out for the sport. MS students are to be given an opportunity to practice and play to improve their skills for the future.

**High School Sports**-the goal of the HS sports is to provide a competitive opportunity for students to participate. Team size, team selection, and game participation will be at the discretion of the coaching staff. JV and Varsity teams will be determined by the coaching staff. There is no guarantee of playing time at the high school level.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Student-athletes are high-profile representatives of Calvary Christian School, and their behavior is subject to scrutiny by their peers, the campus, community, and the media. The actions of a single student-athlete can reflect positively or negatively not only on the individual student-athlete, but also on his or her team and coaches, the Athletic Department and the entire school campus. Therefore, student athletes are expected to represent themselves and CCS with honor, dignity and integrity at all times -including when interacting on social networking websites and in other online environments. The popularity of social networking websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Vine, YouTube, Instagram, BlogSpot, etc.) has grown tremendously during the last few years. These websites can serve as valuable communication tools when used appropriately. The use of social media, however, has the potential to cause problems for both the student-athlete and the school environment. Almost anything, a student-athlete posts on a social networking site may be viewed by others, and both the media and the public are more likely to view the profiles of student-athletes than the profiles of other students.

The Athletic Department has developed this Student-Athlete Social Media Guideline in order to:

- (i) Provide recommendations and suggestions for student-athletes to help them use social media in a safe and responsible manner
- (ii) Outline important rules that student-athletes must follow when using social media

Important Suggestions & Recommendations Regarding Social Networking Sites:

Some students mistakenly believe social networking websites have a veil of privacy about them and assume their profiles are viewed only by a close circle of friends and fellow students. To the contrary, the content on most of these sites is accessible by anyone in the public unless security and privacy features are used. The public nature

of these websites has created personal safety and personal welfare concerns. For example, student-athletes have been stalked or sexually harassed and assaulted because of their Facebook profiles. Fans of opposing teams have taunted student-athletes based on information obtained from social networking sites. Student-athletes also should be aware that potential employers and graduate school admissions officers now regularly screen applicants by conducting "Google" searches of an applicant's name and by reviewing the applicant's social networking profiles. Student-athletes should be very careful about what personal information they share on the internet. For their own security, protection, welfare, and that of their teammates and friends, please adhere to the following:

1. Any postings or communications via social networking websites, which disrupt either the educational or athletic environments or which advocates the violation of any school or team policy, would be unacceptable.
2. Student-athletes may not post online any pictures, information or other content that might cause embarrassment to themselves, fellow student-athletes, teams, coaches, the Athletic Department or the campus (examples: obscene images or language, pictures at parties with alcohol, references to drugs, sex, or illegal activities).
3. Student-athletes may not post any content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual, teammate, coach, faculty member, or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another school). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use).
4. Student-athletes may not post any content online that would constitute a violation of the CCS Student Code of Conduct.

**1st Offense** - One game suspension. contact parents, meeting with the head coach.

**2nd Offense** - Parent meeting with the head coach and the Athletic Director & Dean of Students.

Consequences will be determined based on the severity of

the infraction and may include multiple games suspension or dismissal from the team or athletic activities.

**3rd Offense** - Parent meeting with the head coach, Athletic Director & Dean of Students. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the team or athletic activities.

## ATHLETIC EXAMINATIONS

All students who anticipate participation in CCS athletics are required to have a separate sports physical for participation. Any student that possibly will be playing on a Junior High or Senior High team must have a current KHSAA physical examination and consent form on file in the athletic office. These are to be done before an athlete may practice or participate in a particular sport. For forms, visit the CCS Athletic website at [www.ccsky.org](http://www.ccsky.org) then choose "Athletics." These forms can be found under forms / links.

## ATHLETIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Athletes must be in school by 9:30 am the day of a contest or practice in order to participate. They must stay in school in order to be eligible to play in the game or competition. Athletes who are absent for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  or full day are ineligible to participate in after school activities unless there is an approved excuse by the Administration or A.D. Attendance on Friday will not have a bearing on Saturday contests. Athletes who miss school for medical or approved reasons must have parent permission and make up any missed work. Athletics is an extra-curricular activity, which requires an extra commitment to school attendance.

## ATHLETIC EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Many of our athletes will have the opportunity to participate in other activities such as Sounds of Praise and other school sponsored activities. Athletes may participate in multiple school activities; however, they must keep in mind that others will continue to practice the specific sport, which may affect their playing time. This is also true of youth activities and other church related functions, which might overlap the game and practice schedules. Athletes should communicate with their coaches regarding specific activities. Wednesday and

Sunday Play: The majority of the churches our students attend, desire to have their local body meet midweek and Sundays. Our commitment is to honor this by encouraging our students to regularly attend and to be involved in their church. Wednesday evenings for local church attendance, all practices are ended by 6:15 PM. Exceptions to this policy include NKAC conference games during the regular season scheduled on Wednesdays by the league, make-up varsity contests and varsity teams competing in KHSAA end of season tournament games.

## ATHLETIC FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

No student is permitted to use an athletic facility or equipment at any time without authorized supervision. All facilities including locker and shower rooms must be left neat and clean. Cleats are not to be worn inside the building. Valuables should be secured. CCS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Athletes who use the gym are required to use only their sport specific shoes on the gym floor. Athletes are only permitted in the assigned athletic areas after school hours.

## ATHLETIC AWARDS

### Cougar Award

Each year it is a privilege for each team member to select one of their varsity team members to be honored by receiving the Cougar Award at the end of their season. This award recognizes a varsity player for their outstanding contributions to the team. This fine contribution has been in all areas of their life through effort, hustle, determination, Christian testimony, personal loyalty, and personal integrity as a model athlete. Listed below are the characteristics.

### I. FAITHFULNESS

- A. In Bible study and prayer
- B. To their testimony to the Lord
- C. To their church services and youth group
- D. To school attendance
- E. To all practices and games

### II. DILIGENCE

- A. Gives 100% effort- practice and games (never gives up)
- B. Does not complain though the going may be rough
- C. Is an inspiration to others
- D. Works hard to be a skilled player

### III. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Is not critical of fellow teammates

- B. Displays respect and obedience toward coaches and others in authority
- C. Controls their temper and emotions
- D. Maintains a consistent academic effort

#### IV. LOYALTY

- A. To their Savior
- B. To their family
- C. To their teammates
- D. To their friends

#### Awards Criteria

Students must maintain academic eligibility and not be removed permanently from the team at any time during the season to receive athletic awards. Exceptions may be made for injuries. The coaching staff and Athletic Director are involved in the award selections. Athletes receive a participation medal and coaches select some special plaques to be given out.

#### Awards Night

Each season brings new accomplishments and achievements. Following the Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports, players will have an awards night for their hard work and diligence. These awards nights have been coordinated with the school calendar. Dress code for the fall and winter is casual pants and shirts.

### ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

- Students are required to be passing all subjects with no failing grades below 70%.
- Ineligibility requires a student to be absent from all practices and games until eligibility is restored.
- **Eligibility runs weekly, Monday-Sunday.**
- **Grades are checked on Friday afternoon.**
- **Students with 2 failing grades are ineligible for the next week. (starting monday)**
- **Students with 1 failing grade, by the end of the day Friday, are placed on a week probation. Eligibility is retained.**
- **If the student maintains a failing grade for 2 consecutive weeks, the student is ineligible the following week.**
- Athletes will remain ineligible the entire week, regardless of raised grades throughout the week.
- The Athletic Director will notify the student and coach of the eligibility status for the following week.
- Special make-up tests will not be given for the purpose of eligibility.
- Students may also be declared ineligible for

disciplinary reasons.

- Students who become ineligible for the **third time** during a particular season will be removed from the team.
- Students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the KHSAA have 4 consecutive years to play HS sports. Playing as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader does not count toward the 4 years of eligibility. Once a student has participated in a contest at CCS in grade 9 or after, they have established their eligibility as an athlete and are subject to the KHSAA transfer rules.
- Students who become 19 years old before August 1 (based upon KHSAA policy) shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition. A student who becomes 19 on or after August 1 shall remain eligible for the entire year.

### ATHLETIC PRACTICES

All Athletes are to report to their assigned practice by the scheduled time. Any athlete staying after school will need to report to the assigned supervised area as designated by their coach. Practice attendance must be consistent. Practice times are assigned by the coaches, and athletes are required to meet their obligations. Acceptable excuses are doctor appointments, personal sickness, bereavement, and any extenuating situation approved by the team coach. Players are expected to be on time to each practice. Practices over extended breaks are permissible at the discretion of the coach and the athletic department.

### ATHLETIC UNIFORMS

All uniforms are issued by the Coach and Athletic Director. Uniforms will ordered by the Athletic Department. Athletes are expected to clean and maintain their uniform during the course of the season. Athletes who lose or damage their uniform will be expected to purchase a replacement uniform. All athletic clothing/equipment must be returned to Head Coaches no later than two (2) weeks after the season has ended. If failed to be turned in within two weeks, students will be charged the cost of the uniform. Athletic clothing must be washed and returned to the Coach in a plastic bag with the athlete's name on the bag. This will eliminate any confusion and/or lost uniforms.

## ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION

All athletic team members are required to travel to and from athletic contests in the school provided transportation. Parental permission is granted to a child to travel home with a parent who attends the game. In the absence of school-sponsored transportation to and from games and practices, parents are responsible for student's transportation. Permission slips are required when school transportation is unavailable and must be coordinated by the coaches and the parents, collectively. Coaches are responsible to stay with student-athletes returning from off campus events at night until all students have been picked up.

## ATHLETIC SEASON LIMITATIONS

The beginning dates for all sports seasons are defined by the KHSAA. Students may not receive coaching or training from school personnel (salaried or non-salaried) and the school facilities, uniforms, nicknames, transportation or equipment cannot be used each year in any KHSAA sanctioned sport or sport-activity during the period beginning with June 25, and going through July 8. Coaches will have the opportunity to begin on or after the approved KHSAA date.

All practices and games for a particular sport will conclude at the conclusion of the last scheduled contest or tournament game. CCS will not schedule any games on Wednesday or Sunday; however, if CCS is participating in a KHSAA sponsored event or post-season tournament, the team will have the opportunity to participate. Participation by an individual student/athlete will be the decision of each family without any pressure or repercussions by the coach or team.

Fall Sports-	Cross-Country, Golf, Soccer, Volleyball
Winter Sports-	Archery, Basketball, Cheerleading, Swimming
Spring Sports-	Baseball, Fast-Pitch Softball, Tennis, Track

## ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

Athletes (Grades 7-12) must have a physical/consent form on file in the athletic office before they participate. Athletes are expected to demonstrate sportsmanlike conduct at all times. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action as determined by the athlete's Coach

and the Athletic Director. Athletes will be required to pay the sports fee by the required date. Athletes will be required to meet the academic eligibility requirements. Athletes must be devoted and committed to the team. Quitting is not an option. Athletes who quit a particular team without acceptable approval may forfeit their eligibility for future participation. Athletes are expected to represent their family, school, and Savior with a Christ-like attitude and testimony. Athletes who receive detentions or school discipline will need to serve it on the scheduled date. Athletes will be required to miss any practices or games until the discipline has been fulfilled.

## PARENT REQUIREMENTS

Parents are to support CCS and the Coaching staff as they train our young people through athletics. If there is a question throughout the season, please go directly to the Head coach. Parents should exemplify a proper attitude even when officials make questionable calls. We need our parents to get involved and interested in the lives of your young people as they participate in athletics. Parents will assist the athletic program in taking admissions and concessions for home games and will sign up for 2-3 games prior to the start of each (fall, winter, spring) season.

**Chain of Command**-following this chain of command will help in resolving problems or questions that may arise. If you are unsure of how to contact a coach, please contact the athletic office for specific coaches contact information.

1 <sup>st</sup> Contact:	Team's Head Coach
2 <sup>nd</sup> Contact:	Varsity Head Coach
3 <sup>rd</sup> Contact:	Athletic Director
Request by A.D. and Parent:	Principal

## COACHES REQUIREMENTS

Coaches must have Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and attend a Bible-believing church faithfully. Coaches are expected to maintain a Christian testimony and exemplify Christian leadership. Coaches will be responsible for uniforms, practice schedules, and proper communication. No practices or games will be conducted on holidays, and practices on Wednesday are to be concluded by 6 p.m. allowing athletes to attend youth group. The coach will maintain discipline at practices, games, and in traveling situations. They are to call in game scores to the local newspaper and provide information for school papers & announcements. Coaches will follow the guidelines in the athletic handbook and the CCS rules and

policies, and work directly with the Athletic Director in the planning and execution of each sport. Coaches are

selected by the Athletic Director of CCS and will be evaluated on a yearly basis.