



# Saint Patrick Academy



## Athletic Handbook

### Primary Purpose:

The primary purpose of athletics at Saint Patrick Academy is to promote the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, social and moral development of students.

### Mission Statement:

The mission of athletics at Saint Patrick Academy is for our students and all involved to bring Christ to others in an athletic setting.

### Athletic Philosophy:

The Athletic Department at Saint Patrick Academy views athletics as an opportunity for students to carry the love of Christ into yet another part of their developmental and educational experience. While the ultimate goal of athletic competition is commonly conceived as knowing victory, we stress the importance of cultivating crucial virtues that will assist students within and outside of athletics. Thriving athletic traditions are founded upon the concepts of charity, honesty, humility, meekness, moderation, purity, and good sportsmanship. Coaches, athletes, and parents alike must strive to ensure that the athletic teams behave in a manner that is conducive to allowing the love of Christ to permeate the bodies and souls of the wider community.

### Eligibility:

Athletic opportunities and participation are a reward for excellence in the student athlete's personal conduct and their academic performance.

- Any student who does not conduct themselves in their personal lives or their academic lives in a manner that reflects best on themselves, their parents, their coaches, and their school will be subject to eligibility review by the Head of School and the Director of Athletics.
- Any school suspension for academic, disciplinary or code of conduct issues will automatically activate a review of the Head of School and the Director of Athletics.
- The Head of School and the Director of Athletics will have final say on the application of eligibility of students to participate in athletics.



# Saint Patrick Academy



## Academics:

Eligibility will depend on academic effort, attitude, and conduct both in school and at school functions as follows:

- Academic eligibility for athletics will be determined by a grade check at the mid-trimester.
- Soccer: October 1<sup>st</sup> check in, participation in Basketball and Track will be determined by First and Second Trimester Report Cards. The Athletic Director and Head of School will review.
- Students must maintain a minimum of a C- average with no failing grades.
- Students who fail to meet academic standards will work with an academic advisor to produce an Action Plan. Athletic restrictions will include missing the next scheduled contest, and possibly additional contests if grades do not improve.
- The Athletic Director will be notified of any and all eligibility restrictions and will notify the coach.
- The use, possession, and/or purchase of alcohol, illegal drugs, and /or tobacco products will result in immediate suspension from the squad. All violations of this rule will be handled as a school violation and will result in suspension and/or expulsion from school.
- The Head of School or Athletic Director has the authority to suspend a student indefinitely from a sport for serious or habitual misconduct or lack of academic effort.

## Personal Code of Conduct:

**Saint Patrick Academy** students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner, in school and out of school, that would reflect proudly on themselves, their parents, their coaches, and their school. This personal code of conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Positive displays of respect for school personal, classmates, teammates, coaches, opponents and officials
- Positive personal conduct by refraining for the use of vulgar and/or inappropriate language and gestures. Neither will be tolerated
- Refraining from the use of or the possession of tobacco, drugs, alcohol and the other illegal substances
- Academic excellence as outlines in this handbook
- Academic attendance as outlined in this handbook
- No vandalism
- No Violence



# Saint Patrick Academy



## Student Expectations:

All athletic opportunities at **Saint Patrick Academy** are voluntary participation. Students are expected to give generously of their time, attention, energy, focus, talent and loyalty to their athletic team. Students are expected to take full responsibility for all their actions both on and off the athletic fields/courts while complying fully with the training rules, coaches' instruction, the code of conduct and all other rules and regulations set forth in this handbook. In return, student athletes can expect to be treated with respect, be given knowledge to further their education of the respective sport, be provided practice time to weave their new knowledge with their existing talent and then game time to test and challenge their skills.

## Game Participation:

Saint Patrick Academy students are expected to attend classes the day of a game. Any student who does not attend school the day of a contest due to sickness or unexcused absence will not be eligible to participate in that day's athletic event. Excused absences such as medical appointments and family situations can be appealed to the Head of School or the Director of Athletics who will make a final decision.

## Competitive Philosophy:

**Elementary School Athletics:** Elementary teams at **Saint Patrick Academy** operate on a philosophy of introducing students to specific athletic opportunities to learn more about the sport and then have an opportunity to participate and develop what they have learned through practice and game situations. Game and event results are not factored into a student's or a team's evaluation of performance. Participation is a first priority along with fundamentals, team play and hard work.

**Middle School Athletics:** Middle school teams operate on a philosophy similar to what is stated above while introducing the element of competition. To best prepare **Saint Patrick Academy** students for real life each team member will be encouraged to apply their knowledge and talent to a team concept to pool together their resources to create a team effort. Individual success is not judged by statistics but by how they apply their individual contributions to a team effort. The coach is allocated more decision on playing time based on contributions to the team's competitive situation.



# Saint Patrick Academy



## **Athletic Fee:**

**Saint Patrick Academy** is blessed to have a wealth of volunteer coaches. Each team and individual season has a number of costs associated with its execution. These costs include but are not limited to uniforms, practice equipment, gym rentals, coaches clothing, coach's needs, scorebooks, game officials, specialized instruction, league fee's and end of the season gatherings. Each sport season will have an assigned fee which will be required to be paid prior to the student's participation in the first game/meet of each season. No student will be denied participation based on fee payment. Any parent in need of special financial consideration is encouraged to meet with the Head of School or the Director of Athletics. The Head of School will be responsible for setting fees prior to each season.

## **Transportation:**

**Saint Patrick Academy** does not provide transportation to and from athletic events or practices. Parents are responsible for providing transportation for their child to and from all athletic events. The exception is when practices and contest are held right after school at the school site. Team members should be dropped off and picked up in a timely manner at all times.

## **Volunteering:**

**Saint Patrick Academy** is blessed to have a large group of parent and non-parent volunteers to lead and support its athletic teams. All volunteers, parent and non-parent, who have direct contact with our students on and off the field/court, in an official designated coaching capacity as assigned by the Director of Athletics, must complete a mandated background check plus complete an on-line course entitled "Shield the Vulnerable". Parents and non-parents interested in coaching are encouraged to contact the Director of Athletics as soon as possible.

## **Conflict Resolution:**

Effective communication is critical at all levels of our athletic endeavors. In the event there is a breakdown in communication, parents are encouraged to 1<sup>st</sup> reach out to the coach to set up a meeting that includes the coach, the parent and the student athlete. The request for this meeting should be done at a time outside of game or practice times and not before, during or directly after athletic contests. Requests should be done via email, text or in person to take place at a later agreed upon time and place. In the event this meeting does not clarify any parental or coaching concerns, and the parties are unable to resolve the matter, a meeting with all parties plus the Director of Athletics should be arranged. If this method fails all involved will meet with the Head Of School



# Saint Patrick Academy

who will have the ability to render a final decision. Parents are encouraged NOT to bypass the chain of resolution stated above.



## **Sportsmanship at Athletic Events:**

Saint Patrick Academy students, parents, coaches and athletic attendees are expected to display outstanding sportsmanship at all times. This includes but is not limited to:

- Saint Patrick Academy begins each game with a prayer
- Respect for players, coaches, game administrators and officials
- Positive cheering. Negative cheering will not be acceptable or tolerated at athletic events
- Positive language by all, at all times
- Compassion for opponents in lopsided contests

## **Coach's Team Rules:**

Each team coach is at liberty to add any team specific rules and regulations not included in this handbook. All team specific rules and regulations must be approved by the Head of School and the Director of Athletics.



# Saint Patrick Academy



## Emergency Medical Form

I warrant and represent that my child is physically capable of taking part in this activity. I make this warranty and representation on the basis of advice given me by a duly licensed physician, and I know of no change in my child's medical condition since receiving such advice that would affect the opinion of said physician.

I give **Saint Patrick Academy** and its agent's permission to transport my child via ambulance and/or to be treated for emergency medical or dental problems if an emergency arises. I accept full responsibility for all medical expenses incurred as a result of my child/ward's participation in this program.

### Emergency Medical Treatment Authorization

Student Athlete's Name

All teams will have an emergency kit. Each kit will contain:

- All required first-aid supplies for school sports to treat minor injuries
- Student information form (Emergency Medical Treatment Authorization Form)
- Emergency phone numbers

Permission is hereby granted to the attending physician to proceed with any medical or minor surgical treatment, x-ray examinations and immunizations for the above named student. In the event of serious illness, significant accidental injury, or the need for major surgery, I understand that an attempt will be made by the attending physician to contact me in the quickest way possible. If the physician is not able to communicate with me, the treatment necessary for the best interest of the above named student may be given.

In the event that an emergency arises during a practice session, an effort will be made to contact the parents or guardians as soon as possible. Permission is also granted to the athletic trainer to provide needed emergency treatment to the athlete prior to admission to the medical facilities.

In the space below I have listed any medical condition, physical disability, allergy to medicine, etc. which is relevant to rendering medical care:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Best Emergency Contact Number

Alternative Numbers



# Saint Patrick Academy



## Athletic Permission and Pledge Form

**Athlete's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please allow my son/daughter above to participate in the following sport(s) for the 2018-2019 school year:**

**Soccer**

**Basketball**

**Track**

The expectations for **Saint Patrick Academy** student athletes set forth in the pages of this handbook are to be followed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year as long as the student is enrolled as an active member of the **Saint Patrick Academy** community including all vacation times as well as summer and weekends. The Head of School and the Director of Athletics retain the right to amend the Athletic Handbook as needed.

### Parents Agreement:

I the undersigned parent have read and fully understand The Athletic Handbook and give my permission for my son/daughter to participate in athletics. I understand that by signing that if I do not agree with any of its content that I have the opportunity to meet with the Head of School and the Director of Athletics to express any concerns.

**Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### Student Agreement and Pledge:

I the undersigned student have read and fully understand The Athletic Handbook. I will abide with Handbook's policies especially with regard to conduct and keeping up with my schoolwork. I understand that by signing that I have agreed to a set standard of excellence that I am expected to uphold.

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_