



Fort Saskatchewan Christian School

Athletic Policy

A. MISSION STATEMENT

Fort Saskatchewan Christian School's mission is "to assist families by providing students with a Christ-centered, biblically directed education which instills the vision and practice of excellence in academics, moral character and service to others."

B. PURPOSE OF ATHLETICS

Athletics exist at Fort Saskatchewan Christian School to provide students with an opportunity to glorify God. "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:17) Our athletes will demonstrate and improve their God-given talent, and represent our school in a way pleasing and acceptable to Him through the avenue of sport. All athletes are expected to have this as their goal.

C. COACHING GUIDELINES

GENERAL

1. Team lists should be in to the office within two weeks of starting practice or before the first league game which ever is sooner.
2. The **Athletic Policy** must be explained to all participating athletes.
3. Uniforms will be issued to the coach at the beginning of the season. The coach will keep a record of the uniforms. They will be handed out to team members at the start of each season. Each athlete will be responsible to return the uniform at the end of the season in good condition. The athlete, at the discretion of the coach and athletic director will replace any uniform that is lost or damaged.
4. Sports fees are collected at the office, but it is your responsibility to make sure the sports fees for your athletes have been paid. Athletes don't play until their sports fees are paid except in extenuating circumstances. (see administration)
5. The coach must supervise all students during and after practice. All athletes must have left the school or gym facility before you leave.

GAMES and PRACTICES

1. In every situation make sure all your team have rides home and have left the school or gym facility before you leave.
2. Coaches must travel with and supervise the team during practices, at league games, on road trips, and during tournaments.
3. Make sure **Student Permission Forms** are signed and returned to the school before traveling to league games or tournaments. Submit the original copies to the athletic director.
4. Students are expected to travel with the bus or in their designated vehicle to and from games unless arrangements have been made in advance with the coach and the administration.
5. E-mail each teacher a list of students who will miss classes for sports trips prior to each trip. Please do this as early as possible.

D. FUNDING POLICIES

1. Fees

Fees cover:

- league fees and team uniforms/t-shirts
- tournament entry fees
- officiating
- purchase and upkeep of equipment

This applies to all senior and junior teams.

2. Uniform Replacement

Uniforms that are damaged or lost during the season will be replaced at a cost per basis as determined by the coach and athletic director.

E. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Fort Saskatchewan Christian School student and athlete, you will be provided with the opportunity to travel to various schools or events within our school district. Being part of a school team is for those who have a talent in that particular area and wish to develop it and be involved in a competitive league. Below is a list of what is expected of every FSCS student on athletic trips. If you meet these expectations, our travel and experience will be safe, fun, and we will leave a positive impression of FSCS on other communities.

Students/Athletes are expected to:

- 1.) Follow proper rules for riding on the bus
- 2.) Behave as a proper guest in other schools/facilities
- 3.) Represent FSCS with pride and diligence
- 4.) Return to the school, unless alternate arrangements have been made with teachers and/or supervisors beforehand

Athletes are expected to:

- 1.) Demonstrate sportsmanship both on and off the court
- 2.) Respect officials and coaches
- 3.) Wear proper clothing and footwear for the sport
- 4.) Play their best, whether winning or losing
- 5.) Ensure that their coach/supervisor knows where they are at all times

Coaches, Team Managers, and Athletes should also understand and adhere to the following guidelines.

- a. It is an honor to be a member of a Warriors Sports team.
- b. In order to be involved with an interscholastic team the coaches, managers, and athletes must be prepared to commit themselves to the entire program.
- c. A satisfactory academic record and regular school attendance are mandatory.
- d. To be included on any team, in any capacity, a positive and cooperative attitude with the coaching staff, teachers, officials, administration, teammates and opponents is required, including acceptable attitude and behaviour in classrooms.
- e. It is presumed that any individual on a team will have an attitude of striving for excellence, good sportsmanship, common courtesy, and respect for ALL. Athletes represent Fort Saskatchewan Christian School and will act accordingly.

Athletes' Responsibilities

- a. Athletes are ambassadors for the school; a Christ-like attitude and behaviour are paramount.
- b. Athletes are to put their teams' goals ahead of their own goals.
- c. Athletes must be 100% cooperative with the coach; they must fully respect and honor the God-given authority over them even if they do not always agree.
- d. Athletes should be committed to always do their best. II Tim 4:7 (100% effort)
- e. Commitment to the team in all areas is mandatory: games, practices, team meetings.

- f. Athletes must be committed to improving their skills, which takes hard work, dedication and determination. This should involve practicing on their own; it could involve sports camps or clinics.
- g. For events occurring during school hours, athletes are to be back in class on time. Please maintain clear communication with your teachers regarding homework and class expectations.
- h. An athlete who quits a team may jeopardize their eligibility to try out for any school team for one full year, at the discretion of the athletic director.

F. SPORTS TEAMS

1. Team Selection Criteria

The decisions involved in making team selections are not easy. The coach must spend a great deal of time in the decision making process to ensure that the process is accurately and professionally handled.

The entire student, not just physical skills, is to be considered in the process of choosing the team. The team player criteria include the following:

- skill level and skill potential
- level of physical fitness
- attitude and behaviour
- work ethic
- leadership potential
- "coachability"
- personal benefit to the student
- time commitments of the athletes on non-athletic responsibilities that might be detrimental to either the individual or the team

Athletes are to be made aware of their role and position on the team so that this is clear to them from the outset.

2. Playing Time

Students have the right to try out for a team. However, it is a privilege to be chosen to be a member of a team. It is during practice that a player earns the privilege to play in a game. As many athletes as possible will be given playing time but each player will not necessarily play in every game. Players will be expected to attend all practices even though they might not be given playing time in all games.

Generally, there are a number of criteria which determine who plays, and how much time each athlete receives:

- the effort of the athlete
- the attitude and behaviour of the individual athlete
- the athlete's commitment to the team at practice and during competition
- the athlete's leadership abilities to assist and lift the team up
- the skill level of the athlete
- the skill level of the opposing team

Coaches should also be aware of the following:

At the Junior High level, the coach will provide all participants with the opportunity to play. There should be no expectation that playing time will be equal, however the coach will strive to provide equitable time at his/her discretion.

3. Attitude and Sportsmanship

The player's attitude toward participation in a sport is critical. There should be an attitude of enthusiasm and good sportsmanship. This is demonstrated by supporting and encouraging team members, and not by demeaning opponents or arguing with referees. It is imperative that players respect the opposition and the referees. This is especially significant as a good witness for Christ.

4. Relationship

Teammates, coaches and opposing team members must always be respected as persons of value in the sight of God. Relationships should be built on Christian principles. Loyalty, discipline and sacrifice are encouraged to develop positive character and promote team spirit and unity. Characteristics of egotism, selfishness and jealousy should **never** occur.

5. On Winning

Athletics is competitive and our aim is to play well and to win. However, winning is only one way to measure success and certainly not the most important. Our Christian witness is most important and must never be compromised for the sake of winning.

6. General Conduct

We are role models. Being an athlete or a spectator brings about new responsibilities that we must accept. Many people will know us by our appearance at games and will be observing our actions. Our conduct should always be such that it brings credibility to ourselves, our team, our school and ultimately, glory to God.

G. SPORTS PARTICIPATION POLICY

All students at Fort Saskatchewan Christian School have equal access to participate in junior and senior sports. However, at times the privilege of playing will be removed if there are academic, discipline or attendance concerns. The following guidelines will be followed:

Academics:

- A. If a student is putting forth appropriate effort but is failing, the student may be permitted to continue participating.
- B. If a student is not putting forth appropriate effort and is failing, then the student will be put on probation for two weeks (progress monitored by teacher/coach/ administration). During this probation the student will not play, practice or take part in any team activities. After two weeks, follow-up will occur and if evidence is provided that appropriate effort is being put forth, then the probation is lifted. If poor academic behavior has continued, then the student is suspended from the team for an additional two school weeks. After this period a decision to reinstate or remove the student from the team will be made by the coach/teacher/ athletic director/administration. Coaches need to confer with teachers regarding the performance of the team members, and teachers should notify coaches of poor academic performance as soon as academic concerns are noted.
- C. If a student has an after school detention, the detention takes precedence over a practice or game; at the discretion of the athletic director/administration.
- D. If a student skips an after school detention to attend a practice or game; two detentions will be given. One will be served during a practice or game, the other will not. If this happens a second time a more severe consequence will be implemented at the discretion of the athletic director/administration.

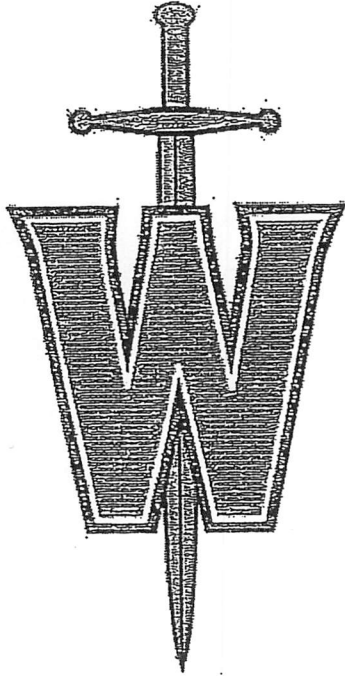
NOTE: No student can be placed on sports probation or removed from a team due to achievement reasons without approval of athletic director/administration.

Behaviour: Any student on suspension is suspended from play and practice for the following time frames:

- ⇒ While a student is serving an in-school or out-of-school suspension, that student will be suspended from play, practice and any other team activity. The time frame will include a weekend if the suspension ends on a Friday.
- ⇒ A student issued two suspensions in a given year may be removed from any sports participation.
- ⇒ Extreme behavior resulting in a suspension will result in a suspension from the sports team as decided by the athletic director/administration.

Attendance: All students playing on a sports team are expected to attend all classes. Any student charged with an inexcusable absence will be suspended from the sports team at the discretion of the athletic director/administration.

1. Any athlete on suspension will not take part in any team-organized events. These include all practices and games or any other activity organized by the team.
2. If a student has been absent from school due to illness on a particular day, he/she will not be permitted to practice or play with the team on that same day.



SPORTS PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

After reading the Parent and Athlete letter, and the FSCS Sports Participation Policy, please complete this form to indicate that you agree with the terms and conditions outlined. The signatures of both student and parent/guardian are mandatory before being allowed to participate in the first game.

As a student on the _____ team, I have read and hereby agree to comply with the FSCS Sports Participation Policy.

Student Name (Please Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

As a parent/legal guardian of the student signing about, I have read and hereby agree to the FSCS Sports Participation Policy.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____