

2021-2022 Athletic Handbook



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Foreword:

The Apostle Paul says, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize." (1 Corinthians 9:24). Naturally, we want the desire to win to be found in all those participating in athletics at Prince of Peace, but this sense of winning is different from that found in other organizations.

The Apostle Paul goes on to say that when we compete, athletes go into strict training. They do it to earn a crown that will not last. We as Christians do it to earn a crown that lasts forever.

We have positive expectations that those who participate in Prince of Peace's 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.

Goals:

1. To provide a means by which the church and school may witness Jesus Christ to the community and the individual members.
2. To conduct the athletic program so that the educational goals of the school are enhanced.
3. To organize, regulate, schedule, and oversee the school's interscholastic program.
4. To promote and foster a Christian environment for the participants, coaches, parents/guardians, and fans.
5. To administer the program in such a manner that the participants are properly examined, equipped, insured, instructed, and supervised so the program is safe.
6. To provide competent coaching and officiating.

THE CHRISTIAN COACHES' CREED:

I BELIEVE that the sports sponsored by Prince of Peace have an important place in education and therefore pledge myself to cooperate with other educators to administer sports so that the value of athletic competition will be understood and accepted as an integral part of Christian growth.

I BELIEVE that Christian sportsmanship is learned. I realize that I am a model to officials, players, and spectators. I believe that my action will have a lasting effect on those who observe me.

Therefore I will:

1. Accept and support the decisions of the officials.
2. Contain my emotions and actions to the best of my ability in order to be a witness to my Christian faith, my church, my school, and my community.
3. Exercise patience, tolerance, and diplomacy in my relationships with all players, co-workers, parents, officials, and spectators.
4. Teach the game for the benefit of all and work to coach according to the rules, remembering that the feelings of the members of your team and the opponent's teams are equally important.

I BELIEVE that I have a unique calling and opportunity as a coach to influence student athletes. My life as a Christian serves to show them the joy and importance of being a follower of Jesus Christ.

Qualification For Coaches:

1. It is recommended that a staff person be the head coach whenever possible. A non-staff person may coach when teaching staff members are not available upon approval of the Athletic Director and Principal.
2. Coaches must be Christians that support the purposes and goals of Prince of Peace.
3. Head coaches must be at least 21 years of age and approved by the Principal and Athletic Director.
4. Coaches must have knowledge of their sport and the ability to relate well with their players.
5. Coaches must have the ability to organize and supervise practices and games.
6. It is highly recommended that our coaches obtain training in first aid, C.P.R., and treatment of minor injuries.
7. All coaches must be fingerprinted and have a background check completed before the season starts.
8. Coaches must also be familiar with the Prince of Peace Student & Parent Handbook.

Expectations Placed on the Athletic Director:

1. Is responsible for all aspects of the extracurricular athletic program.
2. Serve as a model for the coaching staff and uphold the precepts of the Christian Coaches Creed.
3. Select and train coaches and support volunteers.
4. Arrange and publish games and schedules.
5. Schedule and publish all practice times.
6. Make certain that the gym; equipment, and uniform details are in order.
7. Deal with questions or concerns that may arise within the framework of the extracurricular athletics program.

8. Hire or contact officials.
9. Attend all home athletic contests and/or arrange for proper supervision of home athletic contests by administrative personnel.
10. Determine scholastic and behavioral eligibility along with the teachers and principal.
11. Submit and request for purchases of equipment, uniforms, supplies, etc. to the principal.
12. Issue and collect uniforms and equipment.
13. Plan, organize, and supervise all athletic awards with input from the coaches.
14. Organize and train scoreboard operators, scorebook keepers, and line judges.
15. Organize and train concession stand volunteers.
16. Coordinate with the School Yearbook Director for taking of the team photographs for the school yearbook.

Expectations Placed on the Coaching Staff:

1. Teach Christian values, sportsmanship, etc. Begin each practice and game with prayer. Encourage players to lead prayers.
2. Project a positive image of Prince of Peace.
3. No foul or abusive language will be use on the fields or courts.
4. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators.
5. Teach basic skills proficiently to all team members.
6. Communicate with teachers, parents, Principal, School Secretary, and Athletic Director.
7. Plan practice in advance. Begin and end practices on time.
8. Know and teach the rules of the game/sport.
9. Monitor the conduct of players, parents, and spectators. Report misconduct to the Athletic Director. Notify parents of player misconduct.
10. Properly care for all injuries. Keep a record of all injuries and care provided. Notify parents of injuries. Always have the parental consent forms accessible in case of an emergency.
11. Do not leave campus until all players have safely received a ride home.
12. Understand that athletics is part of the total ministry of Prince of Peace. See himself/herself as a leader who has the opportunity to witness to his/her team, families, opponents, officials, etc.
13. Be a good steward of facilities and equipment. Make sure that all equipment is properly stored after each practice and game. Ensure that all lights are turned off and all doors locked before leaving the campus.

Expectations Place on the Student Athlete:

1. A parental consent form must be completed and turned in before participation.
2. Students are expected to attend all practices and games. A written excuse should be given to the coach or Athletic Director, prior to the absence.

Valid excuses for missing practices or games include:

- a. **Illness or injury**
- b. **Family emergency**
- c. **Academic responsibilities**
- d. **Excuses approved by the coach**

Missed practices and/or games may result in reduced playing time, suspension, or possible removal from the team.

3. Unsportsmanlike manner may result in a one game suspension. Further offenses may result in being dropped from the team.
4. Show Christian Sportsmanship.
5. All participants must show proof of insurance through a family policy.
6. If a student athlete is absent from school for any reason on a game day, participation for that day will not be allowed.
7. If a student is out of school due to illness, they must attend the last four school periods to be eligible to participate in practices, games, matches, or competitions.
8. No foul or abusive language and inappropriate gestures will be tolerated.
9. Athletes must respect the calls and decisions of the officials at all times.
10. Maintain grades to stay academically eligible.
11. Students that are suspended or expelled may not participate in practice or games until they are reinstated in school.
12. Return all school property, including uniforms, to the coach or athletic director in a timely manner.
13. **Smoking/chewing tobacco, drinking alcohol, or drug abuse** will not be permitted. If a participant is caught doing any of these the Principal and Athletic Director will determine the correct course of action. The participant will be ineligible for a minimum of one full season.

Academic Eligibility:

While all students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities, participation is a privilege that is earned by maintaining a satisfactory grade point average. Therefore, eligibility for extra-curricular activities will be determined on the Friday closest to the 1st and 15th of each month for grades 5-8. Students must maintain a 2.0 (2 Ds and no Fs) grade point average at the time of the reports to be eligible. When grades are restored at the next evaluation period, students may return to the extra-curricular activity at the discretion of their coach or interest group leader. A plan of action will be created for students who do not restore their grade point average at the time of the next grade check.

1. During the time in which a student is ineligible for athletics, he or she may not attend practices.
2. The athletic director, teacher, and principal reserve the right to limit or terminate a student's athletic participation at any time, for any length of time, when deemed necessary because of academic performance or improper behavior.

Expectations placed on Parent & Spectator Conduct:

1. Place academics as first priority, schoolwork is their primary responsibility at Prince of Peace.
2. Show support for teams by attending as many games as possible.
3. If possible schedule appointments around team schedules.
4. Provide transportation to and from games. There will be no stopping if you are transporting athletes other than your own children.
5. Inform coaches of any necessary absences two days before the absence.
6. Respect officials, coaches, players, and other fans. Be supportive of both teams and use positive words and actions.
7. Parents must respect the calls and decisions of the officials at all times. Parents may be asked to leave based on poor sportsmanship or disrespect towards officials.
8. Discuss problems or question with the coach first and then the Athletic Director if unresolved.
9. Be punctual when dropping off or picking up kids. If a child is not picked up within 15 minutes from the end of a practice session before 6 p.m., they will be sent to ECC and be charged their rate fees.
10. Be willing to work during home games at various jobs including scorekeeper, scorebook, concessions, etc.
11. Be responsible for the proper care and return of uniforms and equipment.
12. Accordingly, parents must abide by the Parent Conduct Expectations found in the ***Prince of Peace Student and Parent Handbook***.

Uniforms:

Every member of the team will be issued a uniform. The uniform is to be worn only for games. Uniforms are to be kept clean. If the uniform is forgotten a spare uniform will not be issued. If an athlete does not have all parts of his or her uniform for a competition, they will not be allowed to compete. If the uniform is lost or damaged, full replacement costs will be charged and the athlete will be issued another uniform if one is available. The coach or Athletic Director will designate a date that all uniforms must be returned.

Practice Attire:

1. Athletes must have a designated pair of shoes for that athletic season.
Designated shoes cannot be worn outside if they are for volleyball or basketball.
2. Socks must be red, white, or black.
3. Student-athletes must wear Prince of Peace clothing/P.E. clothes to practice.
Failure to bring the proper clothing will disqualify them from practice that day.

Student Athlete Contract:

Each student-athlete and a parent will be required to read the handbook and sign the Athletic Contract indicating that they have done so prior to his/her child being allowed to participate in a sport. It is hoped that this will effectively communicate the key athletic information for the upcoming year.

Student Athlete Contract

I, _____, while a participant on any Prince of Peace school team promise to:

1. Attend all practices and meetings faithfully, know that failure to do so may result in lost playing time, suspension, or removal from the team.
2. Attend all practices and competitions
3. Contact the coach or athletic director before a practice or game if you must miss it.
4. Make sportsmanship a total team commitment, regardless of your individual role.
5. Be a full time student at Prince of Peace.
6. Maintain my eligibility and academic standing.
7. Replace any uniforms or equipment issued to me, either by payment or the equivalent of the lost article.
8. Turn in all the necessary forms issued by the coach or athletic director before the first day of practice.
9. Demonstrate the proper Christian attitude and sportsmanship at all times.
10. Accept wins and loses with self-control and dignity.

Athlete's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date