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# St. Paul Lutheran School



## Athletic Handbook

2020-2021

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# St. Paul Athletic Handbook

## **Athletic Philosophy**

The athletic program at St. Paul Lutheran School is based on the philosophy of the school, primarily to make disciples who are responsible, believing, committed followers for Jesus. This philosophy necessitates a Godly character, which we believe St. Paul's athletic program helps develop in each athlete. The opportunity for developing Godly character readily presents itself in the arena of sports competition where the athlete is expected to be responsible, self-disciplined, a cooperative team member, and a good decision maker. Therefore, athletics at St. Paul Lutheran School is considered to be an integral part of a student's education.

We believe our commitment to excellence as Christians is commanded by scripture. We are to be wise stewards of the talents God has given us and to be men and women of excellence. Therefore, our athletic program strives to be the best it can be. In turn, we believe our athletes should strive to do their best when competing. Becoming the best among other competitors may not always be an achievable goal, but doing "your best" is our goal.

## **Goals**

- To glorify Jesus in all that is done on and off the playing arena.
- To provide guidance as each student athlete searches to realize and use their God-given talents.
- To prepare the student athlete for the next level of competition.
- To provide an additional avenue for school spirit.
- To develop an understanding of the rules and concepts of the game that will encourage a lifelong enjoyment of the sport (both competitive and recreational.)

## **Responsibility of the Parents**

Parents/guardians strongly influence their children's attitude toward and participation in athletics. Therefore, I/we will:

- We encourage all parents/guardians to attend as many games as possible. Your support is important to your child as well as our entire program.
- Sportsmanship is required of not only the players but the fans as well. We ask that you are as supportive as possible and not critical.

- Please be prompt when picking up your child after practice or games or notify us if you are going to be late for some reason. Our coaches are required to stay with your child until they have been picked up.
- Continue to pray for the program, as coaches try to mold these athletes into young Christian adults.
- Stress the academics as well as the athletics.
- Please inform coaches of missed practices, illness, injuries, or personal concerns. We're very willing to sit down and talk with you one-on-one.
- Your assistance in the volunteering to help at games and tournaments is needed throughout the season. Our equipment, officials, and tournament fees are supplied by profits made from the tournaments and games.
- If you want to discuss a problem with a coach, please make sure it is done in an appropriate place and time (24 hours after the situation, if possible). The coaching staff will be very happy to sit down and talk with you. All we ask is that any situation is done in privacy and not in the middle of the hallway or in passing after a game or practice.

## Code of Ethics and Conduct for Players

- Respect yourself, fellow players, coaches, parents, faculty and officials.
- Mental game is just as important as talent. When you enter the locker room, it's time to focus only on your sport.
- Sports are a privilege, not a right. Treat it with thankfulness.
- You go to school to be educated, not to play sports. Academics must come first.
- Players need to support each other and other teams in the program. We first need to respect ourselves before we expect other schools to show us any respect.
- First and foremost you represent GOD. You then represent St. Paul, your team, your family, and then yourselves.
- Uniforms are your responsibility – There is a replacement cost for lost or stolen uniforms.
- Eligibility rules stipulated in the Athletic Handbook are to be followed. Exceptions must be approved by the athletic directors and the principal.
- Players must have a current physical on file the athletic directors. Players must also sign a copy of acknowledgment that the Athletic Handbook was read and will be followed.
- Players must be present for practices and games. Coaches must be notified in advance of a missed practice or game. The player realizes that an unexcused miss will result in forfeiture of playing time at the next game. Exceptions would include sickness, doctor appointment, and family emergency. Attending a club practice or game is considered an unexcused absence.

## Transportation

It is the responsibility of the team or squad members to make arrangements for and/or provide their own transportation to all athletic events.

## Scheduling

The coaches and athletic directors will work together in scheduling practices and game times. A printed practice and game schedule will be given to each participant. Changes in the schedule are inevitable. Every effort will be made to inform you of changes as early as possible.

## Participation Requirements

- Participation must promote Christ-like fellowship and sportsmanship at all times.
- No student will participate on an athletic team until their contract and a current school or sports physical has been signed and submitted to the athletic directors after the appointed date.
- Interscholastic teams or squads may consist of only St. Paul students.
- The requirements outlined in this handbook are in effect for those students in grades 5-8.
- Any student that is not in attendance at school related activities by noon for an unexcused absence may not participate in any school sponsored event during that day or evening.
  - Examples of unexcused absences: returning from a family vacation, sickness.
  - Examples of excused absences: funeral, doctor appointments
- Any student who does not participate in P.E. for any reason may not participate in sports activities on that day.
- The student must maintain academic and behavior eligibility as outlined in the St. Paul Athletic Handbook.
- Exceptions to any of these guidelines may be made at the discretion of the athletic directors and/or principal.

## Academic Eligibility

- Eligibility will be checked every two weeks. Students will receive a two week warning before losing eligibility status. A warning is constituted by a D+ or lower in a class.
- Final grading period grades will carry over to the beginning of the following school year.
- A minimum of 2.0 grade point average must be maintained for those who wish to participate in St. Paul athletics.

- An “F” in any subject will render a student ineligible for two weeks when status is reviewed by the teacher, athletic directors, and principal.
- A student who is determined to have an incomplete in any subject at the end of the trimester will be ineligible until the work is complete and has been recorded by the teacher.
- An in-school suspension will result in the said person being suspended from extracurricular activities for one week when status will be reviewed by the teacher(s), athletic directors, and principal.
- An out-of-school suspension will result in the said person being suspended from extracurricular activities for three weeks when status will be reviewed by the teacher(s), the athletic directors, and the principal. Four requirements must be met at this time. The student should:
  - Maintain a 2.0 GPA or better
  - Have no failing grades in any subject
  - Have taken all tests and turned in all assignments
  - Not have spent any time in behavioral detention during that three-week period.
- A second out-of-school suspension the student will forfeit his/her eligibility for the rest of the school year.
- Exceptions will be made by the principal.

## Sports Offered

### Fall

- Girls’ Volleyball
- Co-ed Soccer
- Co-ed Cross Country

### Winter

- Girls’ Basketball
- Boys’ Basketball
- Archery

### Spring

- Co-ed softball
- Co-ed track
- Boys’ Volleyball

(Sports offered may vary depending on availability of coaches and athlete numbers.)

## Conclusion

Parents, thank you for supporting the athletic program at St. Paul. A program is only as good as the people who are involved. Your support makes our program a valuable experience for each child involved. Your efforts are truly appreciated. To God be the glory!

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”  
**Philippians 3:14**

I request permission from St. Paul Lutheran School to participate in extra-curricular sports for the 2020-2021 school year.

I have read the Athletic Handbook published on the St. Paul Lutheran School website and am anxious to grow in mind, body, and spirit, adhering to the academic guidelines and code of ethics and conduct stated. I will remember to keep academics first, athletics second. Above all, I will demonstrate a Christ-like example at all times both on and off the playing arena.

**Athlete(s) Signature:**

_____	Date _____
_____	Date _____
_____	Date _____

I request permission from St. Paul Lutheran School for my child to participate on the athletic teams offered for the 2020-2021 school year.

I have read the Athletic Handbook published on the St. Paul Lutheran School website and agree with the academic guidelines and code of ethics stated. I am anxious to help support my child's team and coaches by cheering, driving on occasion, assisting at home games, and volunteering my time and talents at tournaments. I will assist my child to establish proper priorities with respect to church, family, peers, study, practice, and play. Above all, I will support and respect all players, coaches, athletic directors, and officials in a Christ-like manner, helping to foster a positive approach to competitive, Christian athletics.

**Parent's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency please print the names and phone numbers of contact people.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_