



**Clinton Christian School**  
**Athletic Handbook**

## **Introduction**

Athletics are a significant part of school experience at CCS, and, with other areas of life, are to glorify God. While our school exists primarily for academic training, athletics contribute much in areas of discipline, character training, spiritual growth and school spirit. We expect our students to model energetic participation as if participating "for the Lord," as well as self-control and regard for others.

## **Character Development:**

### **Dependability**

Be at all practices and contests unless excused by your coach. Fulfill what you said you would do even if it means unexpected sacrifice (Psalm 15:4).

### **Punctuality**

Be on time, never late. Show high esteem for other people and their time (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

### **Love**

Be self-sacrificing and show real concern for your team members, your coach and your opponents without having personal reward as your motive (1 Corinthians 13:3).

### **Enthusiasm**

Express with your spirit an interest in every part of your sport and be glad to quickly carry out every part of the job (1 Thessalonians 5:16, 19).

### **Faith**

Demonstrate your awareness that God is in control of all circumstances and that you are committed to acting in harmony with His will (Hebrews 11:1).

### **Humility**

Demonstrate the awareness that your abilities and opportunities are gifts, not something you have done on your own (1 Corinthians 7:7; Philippians 2:3-4).

### **Endurance**

Develop the ability to persist in the presence of stress, discouragement, and disappointment (Galatians 6:9).

### **Boldness**

Boldly express what Jesus has done for you and not be timid or give up easily (Acts 4:29).

### **Gratefulness**

Be quick to recognize the achievements of others and how they and God have helped you (1 Corinthians 4:7).

### **Loyalty**

Use the tough times as opportunities to demonstrate your commitment to God and to those He has called you to serve (John 5:13).

## **Commitment to Athletics**

Athletics at Clinton Christian School are a significant part of the total program of the school. Students' Christian witness and testimony can and should be exemplified through their participation.

Any worthwhile activity requires commitment. Athletics is no exception. The construction of facilities, the employment of personnel, and the organization of schedules are very real commitments on the part of the school. Parents also commit time, money and energy toward athletics for their children. Commitment is also required from athletes.

Athletes are expected to maintain attitudes and behavior consistent with the goals of Clinton Christian School and in line with the Student Conduct section of the Parent-Student Handbook, the signed Student Conduct Agreement Form that is part of the school application, and the items listed in the conduct section of this document below. Participation in athletics implies a commitment to responsible participation in the total life of the school.

## **Eligibility Rules**

To participate in athletic activities (i.e. sports teams or sports managers) students must be eligible. Eligibility for both traditional and homeschool students is determined by the student's current grade level and/or age. The minimum age/grade is fifth grade or 11 years old by the first practice of their sport's season. The oldest grade of eligibility is 12th grade.

Quarterly grades proceeding the current sports season (must have a 2.0 GPA and no failing grades). To maintain eligibility during a season a student's grades must not fall below 60% and they must not demonstrate behavior that requires parent/administration communication. Academic eligibility is determined each Monday morning, when administration checks student grades and behavior. The strike system will be utilized for the following infractions:

- If a student's grades fall below 60%.
- If a student demonstrates behavior that requires parent/admin communication

### **Strike One:**

Students may practice but not take part in contests/events/games during the one week probationary period (Monday to Monday)

### **Strike Two:**

Students may not practice or take part in contests, events or games (Monday to Monday)

### **Strike Three:**

The student is no longer eligible to participate for the season.

Additional eligibility and conduct guidelines are outlined in the CODE OF CONDUCT section below.

## **Code of Conduct**

Student athletes are responsible to uphold the behavioral expectations of all students as outlined in the Parent/ Student Handbook. Flagrant violation of school standards will result in a conference with the parents, student-athlete, coach, Principal and Athletic Director. The results of the conference will dictate athletic participation/ suspension.

Athletes regularly anticipate specific conditions in competition and develop plays to meet those conditions. In a similar way, athletes should anticipate the emotional, mental, and spiritual challenges of competition and develop planned responses to those circumstances which will honor Christ. In this way, students not only grow in athletic skill, but also grow in godliness.

It will be the responsibility of each coach to provide student athletes with this handbook and any other guidelines for that particular sport. Athletes will be required to take this information home and share it with their parents. Athletes and parents must sign a commitment form and return it with the athletic medical release form and the physical examination form.

## **Physical Examination and Medical Release Form**

For students who are participating in athletic competition, a yearly physical examination form and a medical release form must be completed and be on file at the school prior to his/her first practice. Forms are available from the school office.

## **Athletic Fee**

The athletic fee will be utilized to maintain quality uniforms and equipment for the team. The fee for varsity will be \$100 and for junior varsity and junior high will be \$75 per participant per sport. This fee must be paid at the beginning of each sports' season through the office. Participation in one contest eliminates the possibility of any refund, regardless of the reason.

## **Requirements for Participation**

1. Physical examination form completed and on file
2. Medical release form signed and on file
3. Commitment form signed and on file
4. Athletic fee

## **Practices**

Practice sessions are specifically designated to sharpen skills. These skills cannot be applied in contest situations if attendance at practice sessions is not consistent. Students will participate in at least 10 practices before being eligible to play in a game. Practice schedules are announced at least two weeks in advance.

## **Dress Code**

Students are required to wear acceptable, modest, sportswear. Attire comparable to team uniform is appropriate. Tight (biker shorts) or short shorts, skin tight yoga pants, bare midriff shirts, or shirts with questionable messages are not permitted.

## **Late Practices**

With multiple teams needing the gym for practice times, it is possible for a team to need to practice "late," from approximately 5 to 7pm. For students who live a distance away, they may be allowed to stay after school for their practice. These students must be quietly seated in the cafetorium. If the student causes issues and cannot follow these rules, they will not be able to stay.

## **School Attendance**

Athletics are not the first priority at CCS. Spiritual values and academics have a higher priority and must be considered first. Therefore, the following policies will be followed:

1. Students must be in school by 10:30 AM on the day of a practice or contest and must stay in school until school is dismissed. Students arriving after 10:30 AM or leaving before school dismissal will not be allowed to participate in that evening's practice or contest. Attendance on Friday will be counted for Saturday contests and the day before a holiday break will be counted for holiday contests. If the absence is not excused, the student will not be allowed to play in a contest.
2. Students are expected to be at school and not tardy the day following an athletic contest. Disciplinary action will be taken if this is not adhered to.

## **Use of Facilities**

Facilities are a significant provision and are to be treated with respect. Care must be taken to assure that the next group using the facilities finds them clean, well cared for and vacated on time. The following regulations are in force:

1. No student is permitted the use of any athletic facility, at any time, without the direct supervision of a staff member.
2. The use of any school athletic equipment must be cleared through the Athletic Director or Administration.
3. Restrooms, shower rooms, and playing areas should be left neat. Athletic equipment should be returned to its proper storage area.
4. Personal valuables are the responsibility of the student.

## **Team Travel**

### *Overnight Trips*

Occasionally, scheduling dictates overnight athletic road trips. All provisions set forth in this handbook and in the Parent-Student Handbook apply to overnight trips. Lodging will be arranged by the Athletic Director or the Coach. The varsity athletic fee helps cover one overnight stay per season. All students stay with the team on overnight trips, unless a parent has made the trip and special arrangements are made in advance with the Athletic Director to stay with their parent.

### *Transportation*

All athletic team members, managers, and statisticians are required to travel to and from away contests in school provided or school sponsored transportation. The athlete must travel to and from a contest in the same vehicle. Regarding stopping to eat on the way home after away games, if the van leaves the host school at nine o'clock or later, there will be no stops.

Exceptions to team travel may be granted by the coach or the Athletic Director. Permission will be granted to allow the student to return home with his/her parents if a written request is received by the Coach or Athletic Director prior to the contest.

The intent of this policy is to enhance team unity and morale, and to allow coaches and administration to properly arrange for the transportation of teams, to provide a means to meet family emergencies and to properly account for every individual who is traveling.

## **Athletic Awards Policy**

Trophies or plaques will be awarded to two team players in each varsity sport. In addition, one or two coach's awards will be given in each varsity sport. Letters will be earned after having participated in half of the varsity games played during the entire season. Injury may be given special consideration.

*Junior High:* Certificate of Participation

*Junior Varsity:* Certificate of Participation

*Varsity:*

- 1st year: 6" chenille letter award and pin
- 2nd year: pin
- 3rd year: pin
- 4th year: pin and mug or blanket