

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL ATHLETIC POLICY
2010- 2011

PREFACE

It is the policy of Immaculate Conception School that the academic and religious development of the student is of primary importance at all times. The privilege of athletic participation may be earned only through satisfactory levels of achievement in academics, religion, and conduct. Any time that organized athletics become a detriment to the student's academic, religious, or conduct achievement, he/she will become ineligible for athletic participation until a satisfactory achievement level is attained. The existing policy regarding academic and citizenship grade level requirements for athletic participation will remain in effect.

CHRISTIAN SPORTSMANSHIP

“CHRISTIAN SPORTSMANSHIP” IS DEFINED AS RESPECT FOR THE AUTHORITY OF THE COACHES AND OFFICIALS, RESPECT FOR OTHERS (TEAMMATES, OPPOSING TEAM, FANS), AND RESPECT FOR SELF.

Students

Are expected to show the same degree of respect and obedience to athletic coaches as is expected of them in their relationship to classroom teachers. During the course of any athletic activity, the student as player and/or fan, coaches, and parents are representatives of Immaculate Conception School. Students should not engage in any activity or exhibit any behavior that detracts from the goals or image of I.C. School. Students may lose eligibility for athletic participation for infractions of these rules, if in the opinion of the coach, the principal, or the pastor, such infractions are in opposition to Christian sportsmanship or detract from the school or church.

Coaches

Should bear in mind at all times that sports are only games, and their actions and behavior should reflect such. Coaches should be mindful of the physical safety of the student and not place him/her in a position where serious injury may occur. The coach should bear in mind his/her position with regard to leadership and development of the child. Coaches must not physically or emotionally abuse any student who is under his/her supervision. Coaches should be aware of individual ability, skills, and attitudes about the students and realize that children are not adult athletes and will perform accordingly. Each student who is a member of the team should receive ample opportunity for playing in games on regular basis. **THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT COACHES SHOULD NOT FIELD THEIR STRONGEST TEAM AS GAME CONDITIONS DICTATE.** Persons who abuse these guidelines may be asked to give up their role as coach for I.C. School.

Parents

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PARENTS FUNCTION AS ROLE MODELS FOR THEIR CHILDREN. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend games in which their children are participating as an expression of parental concern for and interest in their child's effort. Parent help with athletic development can be strengthened if the parent can observe the child's strengths and weaknesses and guide the child accordingly. Parent behavior at games should exemplify the behavior expected of the child. **Belligerent or demeaning comments or actions toward coaches, school players, opposition team players, and game officials can easily be transferred to the child, resulting in a loss of respect for leadership and authority.** As in the case with the students, the reflection upon I.C. School caused by parent behavior should be positive.

GUIDELINES TO BE USED BY I.C. SCHOOL

The purpose of the athletic program is to provide an opportunity for all interested students to learn good sportsmanship, teamwork, and to learn and improve in basic skills of the sport. Adults involved in the athletic program will strive to encourage the active participation and individual efforts of each student, regardless of skill level. As a result of participating in the sport, the student athlete should develop a respect for authority (coaches, referees, parents) and a respect for others (teammates, opposing teams). The administrators of Immaculate Conception School hope each individual will develop self-confidence, increase in self-esteem, and have fun.

- The athletic program will be under the direct supervision of the school principal.
- Learning the game and learning to handle both winning and losing should be the most important part of the sports program.
- The program coordinator is responsible for submitting all schedules to the principal.

TRAVELING TEAMS

- All athletic events and tournaments will be played on weekends and/or 1-2 school nights. No games will be scheduled later than 8:00 p.m. on a school night. School nights are defined as Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights.
- Coaches are not to enter their team in any other league, or tournaments not approved by the principal.
- In order to play in a game, participation in practice is mandatory.
- School closures for inclement weather, sickness, etc. will automatically postpone game.
- It will be the objective of the traveling team coaches to give each participant playing time in each game. However, circumstances may not permit this in some games. **COACHES WILL FIELD THEIR STRONGEST TEAM AS GAME CONDITIONS DICTATE.**
- If a child is absent from school due to illness or leaves school sick, he/she may **NOT** practice or play in a game scheduled for that day. A student is considered tardy not absent, if he/she arrives at school no later than 8:30 a.m. Students may be absent for a brief time during a game day due to a previously scheduled doctor or dental appointment but must present the principal with the doctor or dental excuse form upon arrival at school.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- In the event a player is on an I.C. team roster and also on the team roster of another organized sport team, the player is required to give primary consideration to his/her I.C. team in regard to practices, games and tournaments should a scheduling conflict occur. If a game is missed due to participation in another sport or game, player will be benched for at least the first two quarters of the following game.
- If a player is unable to attend an I.C. practice or game, notification to the coach by the parent is mandatory. Coaches have the authority to bench players who do not attend practices.
- Students participating in basketball must maintain a “C” average academically and a “C” in conduct.
- Any student who receives an in-school suspension will be benched for the following game. Player will dress out and be present at the game but is unable to play.

Enforcement of these policies will be determined by the grades on the report card from the previous grading period.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE THIS PORTION TO SCHOOL
BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2010.

I have read and will comply with the Immaculate Conception School Athletic Policies and Guidelines for 2010- 2011.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Student