



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

General Information

The purpose of the athletics handbook document is to illustrate the mission of athletics at Bay City Christian School and to communicate the various athletic policies pertaining to student-athletes and families that are established by Bay City Christian School, the Wisconsin Association of Christian Schools (WACS), and/or the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA).

It is the responsibility of student-athletes and families of student-athletes to acknowledge the various athletics policies determined by the athletic administration of Bay City Christian School.

Athletics Philosophy

The athletics philosophy and policies at Bay City Christian School is not in place to restrict or force student-athletes to follow a set of rules, but rather to provide each student-athlete a roadmap to Christ-like living in their adult years.

The mission of athletics at Bay City Christian School is *"to influence each student-athlete to continually strive for excellence in godly leadership and spiritual maturity."*

The athletic administration has established two scriptural passages to support this mission: James 1:2-4 and I Timothy 4:12.

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

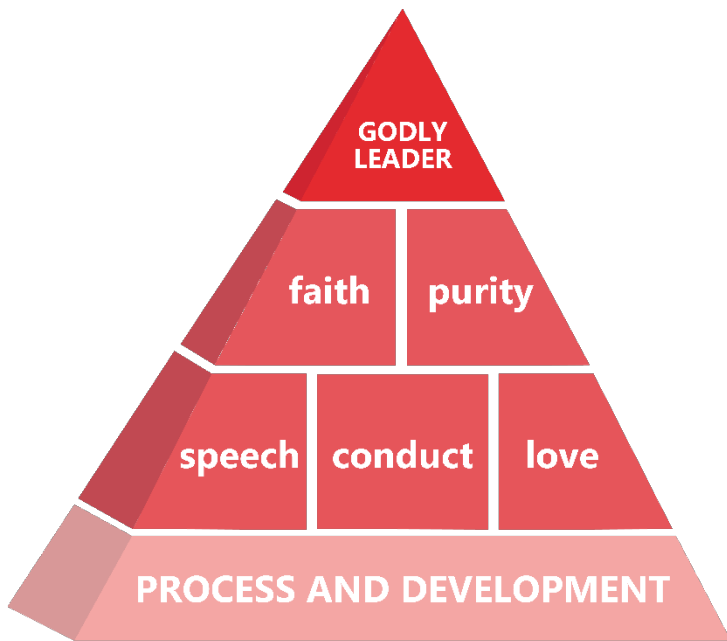
James 1:2-4

Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

I Timothy. 4:12

There are two emphases of this mission statement: ***godly leadership*** and ***spiritual maturity***. The desire for each student-athlete is to take the lessons learned from participating in athletics during middle and high school and apply those lessons in daily life situations beyond their schooling years. The athletic administration desires that each student-athlete becomes a spiritually mature, godly leader in their families, churches, workforces, and all other aspects of their adult lives.

A development pyramid is used to illustrate the mission of athletics at Bay City Christian School and to aid the coaches, families, student-athletes, and the athletic administration of Bay City Christian School to reach the goal of striving for *excellence in godly leadership and spiritual maturity*.



There are three tiers to the pyramid: *foundation, action, and the ultimate goal.*

Being an example of *Godly Leadership* is the ultimate goal (I Timothy 4:12).

Being an example "*in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity*" (I Timothy 4:12) is the action by which the athletic administration, coaches, and student-athletes will reach the ultimate goal.

Process and Development is the foundation of the pyramid, signifying that it is most important. The athletic administration, coaches, and student-athletes must acknowledge that the ultimate goal requires submission to a continual process (James 1:2-4).

Student-Athlete's Code-of-Conduct

The code-of-conduct of Bay City Christian School athletics reflects the athletics philosophy and supporting scriptural passages. Based on I Timothy 4:12, student-athletes are expected to be exemplary in the following areas:

Speech

- Offer uplifting speech to teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials.
- Abstain from hurtful speech, gossip, and profanity.
- Engage in respectful conversation with teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials.
 - Never argue with officials or speak aggressively to opposing players, coaches, and fans.

Conduct

- Be punctual for games, practices, and meetings.
- Assist coaches in the set-up and clean-up of all practice and game equipment.
- Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and fairness in all aspects of athletic participation. Play by the rules and uphold the spirit of the game.
- Abstain from displaying intense forms of anger throughout practices and games.
- Show respect to all participants (including opposing teams and fans) in all wins, losses, and other various circumstances.
 - Never showboat or taunt during a practice or game.
 - Never display aggressive behavior towards another person outside of the natural incidents of gameplay.

Love

- Foster a supportive and inclusive team environment. Celebrate your team members' successes and offer help in their struggles.
- Lovingly confront team members who fail to live out I Timothy 4:12.

Faith

- Demonstrate a reliance in Jesus rather than one's physical capabilities and deficiencies.
- Embrace one's identity in Jesus and His gospel rather than the team's win-loss record.

Purity

- Uphold a high view of and respect for the body.
- Abstain from the abuse of substances or any physical actions that would harm one's physical stature, moral condition, and/or mental capacity.
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In-Season Policies

Practice Sessions

1. Beginning with mandatory practices, only members of the varsity or middle school teams may attend a practice session. Mandatory practice begins in August for the fall season, in November for the winter season, and in March for the spring season. Failure to attend mandatory practices jeopardizes one's playing time and earning honors after each season.
2. It is expected that a student-athlete attends all mandatory practice sessions to the best of their ability unless in the event of a legitimate circumstance.
 - It is imperative that student-athletes take responsibility to manage time well and be diligent in their studies. Academics and schoolwork shall never be an excuse for absence from practice sessions.

Contests

1. The emphasis for middle school level athletics is participation and skill improvement. Therefore, each student-athlete on a middle school team will receive playing time. Coaches will seek to provide each player with at least 25% of playing time for each contest.
2. The amount of playing time on a varsity team is determined by the head coach. A student-athlete's amount of playing time may reflect his/her effort, attitude, and/or ability. Therefore, a student-athlete must understand his/her coach-determined role on the team. Additionally, a student-athlete must acknowledge that his/her playing time may vary based on that role.

3. **The TeamSnap application** will be used to communicate with families with departure times, arrival times, expected dress, eating arrangements, etc. for all contests and tournaments. Families are responsible for keeping updated on the application.
4. Student-athletes must be in proper uniform which include the following standards:
 - a. Shoes/cleats that are either red, black, white, grey, or a combination of those colors
 - b. Uniforms that are provided/issued by Bay City Christian School
 - c. Free of any jewelry, head bands, etc. that violate any WIAA rules/policies
 - d. Tucked-in shirts (for soccer and basketball)
5. Student-athletes' must do their best in representing their name, the school, and most importantly Jesus Christ regardless of various game scenarios. Therefore, student-athletes are never allowed to:
 - a. Showboat in a way that is disrespectful of an opponent or spectator
 - b. Speak disrespectfully toward an opponent or spectator
 - c. Argue with game officials
 - d. Or do anything else that does not uplift or proclaim the love and gospel of Jesus Christ.

Bus Trips

1. Coaches and managers are required to communicate with family members through **the TeamSnap application** with arrival times when returning after contests. Families are responsible for keeping updated on the application.
2. Student-athletes must adhere to the bus code of conduct which include:
 - o No headphones
 - o No profanity, gossip, bullying, etc.
 - o No explicit music whether heard or unheard
 - o No vandalism
 - o Or anything else that does not uplift or proclaim the love and gospel of Jesus Christ

Locker Rooms

1. Student-athletes must adhere to the locker room code of conduct which include:
 - o No headphones
 - o No profanity, gossip, bullying, etc.
 - o No explicit music whether heard or unheard
 - o No vandalism
 - o Or anything else that does not uplift or proclaim the love and gospel of Jesus Christ

2. Furthermore, student-athletes should also leave the locker room space in the same or better condition than it was when it was first occupied.

Dress Code

1. Student-athletes should wear the following to team practice sessions:
 - a. TOPS: Bobcat t-shirts or shirts without words or images, no sleeveless shirts, for practice athletic shirts/jerseys are acceptable, if available a practice uniform must be worn.
 - b. BOTTOMS: Athletic shorts to the top of the knee or BCCS athletic pants.
2. Student-athletes should wear the following on game-days:
 - a. Bobcat polo and school uniform bottoms (khaki color) on the day of games, while traveling to/from games, and between games at tournaments.
 - i. BCCS athletic pants may be worn instead of uniform pants for soccer matches and after games.
 - b. Athletic shoes and cleats that are primarily black, red, white, gray, or any combination of those colors (see "Contests").
 - c. Student-athletes may wear Bobcat Friday attire to games on Fridays.
 - d. The administration requires all student-athletes to wear regular school attire for both days of the state tournaments.

Equipment/Uniforms

1. At the beginning of the season, game uniforms may be issued to the student-athletes.
2. All uniform pieces used throughout the season **must** be signed out from the uniform log.
3. At the end of the season, uniforms pieces must be returned and signed back into the uniform log (see "Equipment Return").

Eligibility Policies

Sports Physicals

1. A student-athlete must have had a sports physical to participate in a mandatory practice, scrimmage, or game.
2. A student-athlete must read and sign the concussion paperwork to participate in a mandatory practice, scrimmage, or game.

Missing Assignments

1. Per school policy, a student-athlete may need to miss playing time if he/she are behind in their missing assignments.
2. If a student-athlete must miss playing time, it is important for the student-athlete and family members to understand the importance of this disciplinary action and make sure the student-athlete serves their entire penalty regardless of its impact on the season.
3. If a student-athlete is in missing assignment detention frequently during an athletic season, he/she will receive a suspension of in-game playing time. The length of suspended playing time will be determined by the number of occurrences a particular student-athlete must serve a missing assignment detention. Examples of in-game suspension are as follows:
 - a. Three occurrences: 1-half/2-set (volleyball) suspension
 - b. Four occurrences: 1-full game suspension
 - c. Five occurrences: complete expulsion from the athletic team

The severity of one's suspension is dependent on a his/her typical playing time.

Exemptions to this policy may be made by the athletic director/administration.

Grades

1. A student-athlete must have at least a C-minus average, no F's, and no incomplete work.
2. Any student-athlete who is found ineligible at the mid-term or at the end of a quarter may practice but cannot play in any game until the next mid-term or end of quarter report. If a student-athlete is ineligible again, he/she cannot participate in practices or games until the next report period. The aim is not to punish the student-athlete, but to motivate him/her to focus on his/her priorities.
3. In some cases, the student and his parents may write a letter of intent and draft a plan to bring the grade(s) up. The administration may grant the student-athlete eligibility sooner than the next report period. One such letter may be accepted each school year.

Disciplinary Actions

1. Per school policy, a student-athlete may need to miss playing time due to behavior-related circumstances.

2. A student-athlete must have fewer than 25 demerits and not be on Spiritual Probation to participate in athletics.
 - If a student-athlete receives 25 demerits during an athletic season, he/she will be suspended from any participation with the team.
 - **For basketball:** If a student-athlete receives 25 demerits *at the end of the fall semester*, he/she must serve a minimum of a 2-game suspension at the start of the spring semester.
3. If for any reason, a student-athlete receives a red card (soccer), technical foul, or ejection during a contest, their coach will complete and submit an Infraction Report Form to the athletic administration and/or WACS.
 - This report form may suspend a student-athlete for either some or all of the remainder of the season.

Quitting

1. If a student-athlete wishes to quit an athletic team for any reason, he/she **must** follow the following procedure:
 - Step 1. Student-athlete must speak with coach
 - Step 2. Coach meets with athletic administration
 - Step 3. Athletic administration will meet with student-athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s).
 - Step 4. A final decision and next steps will be determined by the athletic administration.
2. Student-athletes who voluntarily quit a team after being officially rostered will be ineligible for the remainder of the current athletic season AND the entirety of the following competitive (non-club team) athletic season.
 - A student-athlete who quits forfeits any conference/school awards and recognitions.
 - A student-athlete who quits will not receive a refund of athletic fees.

Finances

1. A separate sports fee per student-athlete per sport is charged to the family's account. This fee is listed on the *Tuition and Fee Information* sheet.
2. Sports fees and school support cannot completely cover all the expenses; therefore, fundraisers may be held to offset costs. Players and parents are required to be involved.

Family Assignments

1. Parents are **required** to help with family assignments for at least two slots and one tournament slot per sport that their child is playing.

2. Student-athletes and parents who fail to fulfill their family assignment requirements will be charged an additional fee. This ensures equity for parents who faithfully volunteer their time.

End of Season Policies

Athletic Awards Ceremony

At the end of the season, an awards ceremony will be held for the athletic team members and their families. During the ceremony, coaches are required to present a speech that highlights moments of the season and recognize each student-athlete.

1. Each middle school team will announce **two** team awards and each varsity athletic team will announce **four** team awards.
2. Coaches are required to choose two/three student-athletes to receive a team award. The two/three awards are as follows:
 - Leadership Award
 - Process Award
 - Coaches' Choice Award (**varsity only**)
3. The Leadership and Process awards are given to the two student-athletes that best demonstrate the mission of Bay City Christian School athletics (godly leadership and spiritual maturity).
4. **For varsity teams:** The Coaches' Choice Award is given to a varsity student-athlete that best demonstrates a quality that a coach desires to highlight/celebrate.
 - The Coaches' Choice Award must not be based on one's physical capabilities but rather one's character.
5. **For varsity teams:** An Academic Achievement Award is also given to a varsity student-athlete who retains the highest-grade point average (and retains at least a 93% average) throughout the season. This award is selected by the athletic administration.

Equipment Return

1. At the end of the season, all uniforms, practice bibs, and other borrowed equipment must be returned to the school in a timely manner.

2. Any uniform pieces that were used throughout the season should have been signed out from the uniform log (see "Equipment/Uniforms"). When returned, uniform pieces should be signed back in on the uniform log.
3. If any uniform pieces are not returned in a timely manner, fee/charges will be issued to the person responsible.

Off-season Policies

Open Field/Open Gym Opportunities

1. After the end of each athletic season, student-athletes will have the availability to participate in open field/open gym opportunities.
2. As determined by WACS, the open gym/open field time frame runs from the end of the season to the end of May.
3. During this time frame, student-athletes can schedule times to play with other members of the athletic team.
4. These opportunities **must be** student-led as coaches and managers are **not permitted to** have interactions with student-athletes during this time.

Summer Practice Sessions

1. During the summer months, student-athletes will have the availability to participate in summer practice sessions.
2. As determined by WACS, the summer practice sessions run from the beginning of June to the end of July. However, teams are only allowed **48** hours of summer practice sessions throughout the eight-week time frame.
3. It is highly encouraged that student-athletes attend summer practice sessions.

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