



Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach Athletic Program Statement of Commitment/Handbook

Philosophy of Athletics

Christian Academy is committed to build champions (Romans 8:37) for Christ through building confidence (II Corinthians 7:16), emphasizing commitment (I Corinthians 14:40), concentration (I Peter 1:13), conditioning (Hebrews 3:6), courage (Joshua 1:6,9,18), consistency (Titus 3:8), compassion (I Peter 3:8), class (Colossians 3:23), character (Hebrews 13:17), control (James 3:5-8), Christ-likeness (Philippians 2:12), and a competitive spirit (I Corinthians 9:27-28).

Purpose of Athletics

Christian Academy is committed to the spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical development of every student. The athletic program purposes to provide enjoyable athletic opportunities and competition through which students can learn skills and habits of physical activity that contribute to lifelong vitality. The athletic program emphasizes fundamentals of sportsmanship and athletic skill that relate to team spirit, confidence and enjoyment of team activities and relationships.

Christian Academy is committed to developing and maintaining a **Christ-honoring**, comprehensive, competitive Middle School, Junior Varsity, and Varsity athletic program. **Commitment** will be demonstrated through mandatory practices, where **concentration** will be required and **conditioning** will be emphasized. **Courage** will be instilled in each athlete by their willingness to face any circumstance with intensity and determination. Christian Academy will purposefully schedule teams that are challenging, in order that students and coaches may learn to exhibit **courage** and a **competitive spirit**. **Compassion** and **class** will be emphasized by treating our opponents with respect in victory or defeat. **Character** is developed through challenging preparation and setting expectations of behavior and performance that is higher than the norm for both coach and athlete.

Participation in Athletics

Christian Academy is committed to providing a variety of athletic activities for students. The school encourages participation by those students who have formally enrolled as a student at Christian Academy, who meet the criteria of academics and character as outlined in the school's *Eligibility Policy for Co-curricular Activities/Athletics*. Coaches are to work closely with students to develop gifts of leadership and skill as demonstrated during athletic participation. All teams and individuals are to do their best "as unto the Lord" and in keeping with the school's commitment to excellence in all areas. Every effort is made to balance the developmental needs of our players with the desire to compete at the highest level.

Coaches, players, parents and fans represent Jesus Christ and Christian Academy to other teams. Given our responsibility to God to be a witness at all times, athletics is an excellent platform for impacting the culture for Christ. Everyone associated with Christian Academy is expected to encourage and support our student athletes and to cheer for Christian Academy and not against other teams. Exemplary sportsmanship among students and their families is required for participation.

Responsibilities of Athletic Director

- To operate within the scope and specific philosophy and policies of Christian Academy, cooperating with and upholding all policies adopted by the Board of Trustees for Christian Academy
- To exhibit Christ-like behavior at all times and require it of all players and coaches
- To prepare an annual budget which reasonably projects expenses and income and submit the budget to Head of School, reviewing this information quarterly.
- To develop athletic opportunities for students as the school grows, identifying student interests as part of the planning process
- To be responsible for and make all arrangements and schedules for home and away games
- To secure facilities and referees and request any payment related to these for each home game
- To schedule all school athletic contests, consulting with the Head Coach and Head of School for input before schedules are finalized.
 - *(Final decisions regarding scheduling are at the discretion of the Head of School. No schedules are published prior to Head of School approval.)*
- To procure all necessary equipment, scorebooks, etc. and distribute these to head coaches
- To publish game and practice schedules for all Christian Academy students and their families; to notify all participants and their parents of changes in schedules quickly
- To arrange for proper facilities for practice and to notify the Head Coach about the specific arrangements
- To arrange for two adults to supervise all practices and sporting events for sports with ten or more participants
- To arrange for and/or require physicals for student athletes, and properly document and file these records with the nurse's office, contacting parents and not allowing play until these are submitted

- To secure permission to participate and to secure all pertinent health-related information and forms for the student athlete from the parent
- Require and document all coaches to have an annual background check, proper training from the Athletic Director using the Christian Academy Athletic Handbook
- To provide a file to each Head Coach which includes Health Information forms and Medical Release forms for each team member, manager, or any other student that will work or travel under their supervision
- To be responsible for insurance procedures, procuring the appropriate forms and information, in the event of an accident
- Lead, coordinate and develop the Christian Academy Booster Club
- Prepare all plans and details for athletic banquet(s), awards, team photographs, etc.
- To dress in professional attire for both practices and games and when otherwise representing Christian Academy athletics in planning meetings, etc. (collared shirts with Christian Academy logo *or* dress shirt and tie, if appropriate)
- To coordinate and develop an active Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization for students
- To attend, compile, and report all pertinent information from SCISA to Head of School, Leadership Team, and faculty and staff as necessary
- To ensure that any visitor who would like to use the facilities for athletic purposes has the permission of the Athletic Director and Head of School, and there is a Christian Academy representative present

Requirements:

- Minimum BA/BS Degree
- ACSI Athletic Director Temporary, Standard, or Professional Certificate (or willingness to acquire) Teaching certificate also if teaching at Christian Academy
- South Carolina State Teaching Certificate (preferred, not mandatory) if also teaching
- Committed Christian Life/Testimony as noted in the Statement of Faith
- Experience in athletic directorship
- Experience with indoor and outdoor facilities management and rental
- Passion and vision to work with and help mentor young athletes, coaches, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators in a Christian school environment.
- Strong leadership abilities and skills, including being well organized, an excellent communicator, good with public relations and computer literate.
- Agreement with the Christian Academy Administrator Job Description (see attachment)

Responsibilities of Coaches

- To operate within the scope and specific philosophy of Christian Academy, cooperating with and upholding all policies adopted by the Board of Directors for Christian Academy
- To, as the primary responsibility, provide for the welfare, safety, and spiritual growth of the students under his/her supervision, including natural opportunities for prayer and study of God's Word during practice and games/matches.
- To exemplify Christ-like behavior at all times and require it of all players

- To develop a friendly and courteous relationship with each the parents of each player
- To have an annual background check, annual CPR certification, and other proper training
- To require adherence to stated rules and regulations of the game at all times, stressing the importance of honesty and integrity to God-honoring competition
- To model sportsmanship that responds to winning or losing with the grace, peace and wisdom of Christ
- To never, **under any circumstances**, leave an athlete unsupervised, always being responsible for each athlete until they are released to their parents or the responsible adult after games or practices
- All interactions with players and coaches will be **observable and interruptible**
- To secure the team file regarding health, insurance and accident information and to keep a copy of this complete file at **EVERY** game and practice
- To be responsible for distribution of uniforms before the season begins and collection of uniforms during the week following the end of the season
- To distribute a written schedule of practices and games to parents and students, no later than the first week of practice; to communicate with parents about optional camps and skill development sessions (but not to be required); communicate with parents about changes in game schedules
- To submit to the Athletic Director a weekly grade report of players
- To coordinate transportation in accordance with the school's transportation guidelines for students
- To submit to the Athletic Director a list of wants and needs, as well as an inventory of equipment after each season is complete
- To be responsible for the proper care and use of all provided facilities, equipment, scorebooks, etc., being considerate to clean up at the end of practices and games
- To understand and follow the anti-harassment policy as noted in the Christian Academy Family Handbook
- To dress in professional attire for both practices and games and when otherwise representing Christian Academy athletics in planning meetings, etc. (collared shirts or t-shirts with Christian Academy logo *or* dress shirt and tie, if appropriate)
- To be responsible for the conduct and discipline of student athletes at all school sporting events, taking great care to require that students fulfill the school's expectations of Christian behavior and witness

 ***All volunteer (non-staff) coaches must be approved by the administrator and school board. All volunteer (non-staff) coaches are to be under the direct supervision of a designated Christian Academy staff or Board member. Any volunteer coach, overnight chaperone, substitute teacher, or any other person in direct supervision of students must grant permission for a SLED/background check.***

 ***The Administrator and/or School Board have the final decision making authority in all matters related to athletics at Christian Academy.***

Responsibilities of Student Athletes

- To exhibit exemplary Christian behavior both on and off the field/court
- To strive for academic, as well as athletic excellence, committing to develop their God-given talents to the fullest
- To work hard and be a team player
- To support and encourage other players both on and off the court/field
- To be at practice and games on time
- To discuss with the coach at the earliest possible time any absence that is anticipated
- To be a member of the team the entire length of the season
- To participate in off-season skill development/conditioning activities requested by the coach
- To support the team by having a positive attitude as a starter or as a substitute
- To take care of the uniform and other equipment provided for use during the length of the season, noting that any uniform or equipment not returned or cared for properly must be replaced by the student or his/her family
- To demonstrate respect, obedience, self-discipline and responsibility to coaches, players, officials, parents and fans of Christian Academy

The Head Coach or his/her designee will be responsible for the conduct and discipline of student athletes for all games/practices. Please refer to Matthew 18 conflict resolution policy as Christian Academy's approach to any issue which may arise. Student manners and courtesy in public places must be exemplary. Any member of a team who should conduct himself or herself to cause adverse reflection on himself or others will be subject to suspension from the team by the Administrator, upon the recommendation of the Head Coach. Students will wear collared uniform shirts and khaki shorts or pants, consistent with the uniform policy, to all games, unless otherwise approved.

Transportation of Athletic Teams

*Teams will travel to and from all events only by authorized transportation as arranged by the Athletic Director. Coaches are responsible and athletes cannot be insured if travel is conducted otherwise. All athletic teams will travel by bus or cars driven by approved adults. Automobiles used for transporting student athletes out-of-town contests or meetings shall be driven only by responsible adults. For each event, the Athletic Director will provide a list of drivers, their cell phone numbers and the names of students in each car to the school office.
(A travel/transportation form for trips will be provided.)*

Emergency First Aid

First aid is administered to students who become ill or are injured during the course of a school activity. No treatment beyond first aid should be given. No medication will be given without proper authorization from the parents.

Any accident to a student requiring medical attention will be considered an emergency. The following steps will be utilized as deemed appropriate by the nature of the emergency. They are not listed in a recommended sequence.

A. Contact the parent or guardian and follow their instructions.

B. Notify the family physician.

C. Contact an emergency rescue squad for assistance.

If a parent is not available, a school staff member should accompany the student to the doctor or hospital.

Completed accident report and insurance claims are to be submitted to school office by the Athletic Director within 24 hours.

Each coach will be given a copy of each student's Emergency Medical Forms and Medical Release and Authorization, and should have this file with them at each team activity.



Coaching Agreement for _____

Christian Academy is pleased to offer you the _____ position for the _____ school year. To accept this offer, please return this completed form to the Athletic Director within 10 days. By accepting this agreement to coach at Christian Academy, you acknowledge the following:

- *I am in agreement with Christian Academy's Statement of Faith and / or have expressed any concerns or further explanation in writing to the Head of School.*
- *I have read and agree to coach in accordance with the values expressed in the Christian Academy Athletic Handbook and Family Handbook and am willing to receive and follow direction from the Athletic Director and / or Head of School.*
- *I understand that Christian Academy will not ordinarily hold athletic practices or activities on Sundays.*
- *I understand that Christian Academy requires that I must complete a background check and other required training before beginning my coaching duties with students. All head coaches are required to complete CPR certification.*
- *I have reviewed Christian Academy's child protection policy and understand that I am not permitted to travel alone with a player (unless a family member) and that a second coach or adult must be in attendance anytime I am in a locker room or other private area with players. All interactions are to be observable and interruptible.*
- *I understand that the position comes with a stipend of _____ and this will be my sole compensation, regardless of length of season.*
- *I understand that coaching agreements are for one season at a time. Subsequent agreements will be offered after a post season review from the Athletic Director and are at the ultimate discretion of the Head of School.*

Printed Name

Date

Signature

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