



Dear Students and Parents:

Athletics are an integral part of the educational process at Calvary Christian Academy. Our mission for CCA Athletics is to equip student athletes intellectually, physically, socially, and spiritually so that he/she may use their gifts and talents to impact our world for Christ. As a school that is committed to shaping hearts and sharpening minds, our athletics program works to continue our students' growth alongside of their classroom education. We at CCA whole-heartedly believe that athletics provide an immense amount of opportunities for individual, group based, and spiritual maturation. The challenges that students face on the field, and in the classroom, will work together to refine them into the image of Christ, and into impactful members of the community. Our athletics program is yet another opportunity for the sanctification of our staff and students, as well as an opportunity to glorify God. Additionally, research indicates that students who are involved in co-curricular experiences manage their time more effectively and have higher grades than those who are not involved.

In addition, they have a more serious sense of their own growth and development. After-hours commitments also teach organizational skills, decision making skills, and interpersonal skills and enhance opportunities for expanding creativity. Athletic activities are also some of the events in which lasting positive high school memories are made. It is for these reasons I am pleased that you have chosen to participate in the athletic programs at Calvary Christian Academy. This handbook is written for students and their parents in order to provide you with the information you need to understand the rules which govern athletic participation and procedures which must be followed by athletes and their parents. This handbook should be read by parents and students. **The acknowledgement must be signed by both the athlete and a parent and submitted to the coach before the first practice of the season in order to eligible to participate.** Best wishes for a successful school and sports year.

As spectators and participants, each of us - students, parents, teachers and administrators -have a responsibility to the School. We must extend to our guests - the officials, players, coaches, and spectators - of neighboring schools the courtesy and sportsmanship that we wish to have extended to us during our visits as guests in their schools. Our conduct at all athletic contests is a reflection of the CCA community, our educational, and our Christian testimony. It is, therefore, most important that our attitude be friendly toward our guests during their visits to CCA.

The officials and coaches assigned to our athletic contests are well-trained and each of them performs a necessary and difficult task. We could not run an organized interscholastic athletic program without them. Even when we may disagree with an officials' or coach's decision during a contest, we should remember that these individuals are human beings and deserve our respect. The athletes on each team practiced long and hard to prepare for their seasons. They are trained to perform to the best of their ability and to represent their school and community in a sportsmanlike manner. Booing or abusive language directed towards players, coaches or officials is a sign of poor sportsmanship. Let us rather direct our energies towards encouragement and cheering at all athletic contests. As Romans 13:1 states, ***“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”*** During athletic contests, officials are the governing authorities and should be treated accordingly.

It is our desire that all individuals (athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, and supervisors) involved with interscholastic athletics will display behavior that reflects the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and a relationship with Christ. The benefits derived from playing the game fairly should be stressed and any actions which tend to destroy those values should be discouraged. Courtesy should be shown toward opponents, officials, supervisors, spectators, and administrators. Efforts must be made to achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and standards of eligibility, as well as to respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials. Most of all, it is the duty of all concerned with high school athletics to remember that each individual athletic contest, while important, is still only a contest and should be kept in that perspective. ***“Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules.” II Tim 2:5***

### **ATHLETES ARE EXPECTED TO:**

- conduct themselves in a mature fashion at all times
- not engage in the hazing, initiation or bullying of any students or staff members
- demonstrate self-control and mutual respect at all times
- avoid the use of profanity, abusive language or gestures in dealing with opponents, officials or spectators
- accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity; poor winners or losers do a disservice to themselves
- set an example in word and deed, both on and off the playing area; remember that athletes assume a leadership role and that younger students emulate their behavior
- observe training regulations and requirements of physical fitness for better personal performance and greater
- contribution to the team effort
- place athletic competition in its proper perspective; it represents only one part of the learning process and should not be pursued to the exclusion of everything else

### **SPECTATORS ARE EXPECTED TO:**

- conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior
- respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them
- refrain from feet stomping, disrespectful remarks and the use of noisemakers
- remain silent when players require total concentration, i.e., a free throw in basketball or a serve in volleyball
- obey the regulations of the school; those who do not conform will be brought to the attention of the administration
- understand that schools are responsible for the conduct of their respective spectators, whether home or away.

**\*\*\*Violators of this code are subject to eviction from the area.**

### **HAZING, INITIATION, BULLYING**

The coach will review with the entire team the definitions of hazing, initiation, and bullying. The student athletes will understand the seriousness of participation in any activity that is considered hazing, initiation or bullying and that CCA has zero tolerance. There are serious consequences should this occur.

**\*\*\*Violators of this code are subject to suspension/dismissal from the team.**

## **ATHLETE/ PARENT/ COACH COMMUNICATION PROCESS**

It is our expectation that communication will be encouraged and maintained between and among parents, athlete, and coach. Parents are entitled to answers to legitimate questions regarding their child's performance and/ or status.

- During the season, concerns may arise. The following communication process should be followed:
- The minutes following a game or practice can be a very emotionally charged atmosphere. Never approach an athlete, coach, or administrator following a game or practice. Please allow 24 hours before discussing any issues with the coach or athletic director.
- Speak with your child prior to meeting with the coach; often issues are a matter of simple miscommunication. Your child may have more accurate information about the issue and be able to resolve the issue before it can escalate.
- If you feel a meeting with the coach is warranted, give your child an opportunity to meet with the coach first. This is a wonderful opportunity to “coach” your child in conflict management/resolution. If unresolved...
  - Player & parent meet with coach for further discussion, if unresolved...
  - Player, parent & coach meet with Athletic Director for further discussion, if unresolved...
  - Player, parent, coach & Athletic Director meet with School Administration.

*“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.” Matt 18:15*

## **Athletic Responsibility**

### **PREREQUISITES FOR PARTICIPATION**

In order to participate in interscholastic athletics, every student must pass a health examination. All students who are evaluated by their family physician must submit the appropriate, completed Physical form to the School Nurse's Office. Each student must also have a current Athletic Agreement form, CCA Medical Form, and Travel Form completed, signed and filed with the Athletic office. All forms, with exception to the Physical form, must be completed and signed before each sports season begins. Students participating in multiple sports may **not** re-use the same forms from one sport to the next. Lastly, each student must have a yearly athletic fee, paid to the athletic office, before the start of their sport season.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT ATHLETES**

In order to participate in our interscholastic sports program, each student athlete must assume responsibility for the following:

1. Appropriate, considerate and responsible behavior at all practice and game situations.
2. Attendance at all practices
3. Attendance at all games.
4. Three unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the team.
5. The athlete is responsible for reimbursing CCA for missing equipment or uniforms. Until reimbursements are made or the article is returned, the athlete's eligibility for athletic participation is temporarily suspended. Also report cards/ diplomas may be withheld.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:**

1. Students must be present in school for half of the day in order to participate in an athletic practice or game that same day.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**We encourage all members of athletic teams to travel to and from athletic contests in transportation provided by CCA.** We do understand that there are occurrences in which an emergency comes up necessitating the need to take a child home. Such occurrences would be: School functions, religious obligations, and medical emergencies. Every attempt should be made to schedule any medical or dental appointments on non-game days. Parents are never permitted to take home any other child than their own. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that athletes behave responsibly and in accordance with the school district's bus safety guidelines. Athletes should be reminded that as team members they are representing CCA and their behavior and decorum will reflect on their team, coach and school.

**\*\*\*Students are not permitted to drive their automobiles to away contests.**

## **PARENTAL SUPPORT**

We encourage all parents to attend games and to model constructive support and guidance when students experience either success or failure in game situations. Most importantly, we ask parents to help us reinforce the inherent values of striving for individual and team progress, good sportsmanship and commitment to maintaining team morale. All practice sessions are closed to parents. Our athletic staff welcomes the opportunity to speak with parents about specific concerns and ideas. Discussions on the

field tend to be fragmented, incomplete and are, unnecessarily, public. Consequently, the most productive conversations can and should take place at scheduled times, in more private settings.

## **ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES**

All student athletes are expected to report all injuries sustained, no matter how minor, to their coaches. Every time a student athlete requires treatment by a physician, that student must obtain a signed release from the physician before subsequent athletic participation can take place. The physician's release must authorize our school to allow the student to participate in interscholastic competition. The release must be submitted to our School Nurse.

## **Eligibility**

To qualify for athletic eligibility each student must fulfill the following criteria.

- Earn Academic Eligibility – Earn and maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA with no **failing** grades in any major subject.
- Disciplinary Eligibility – Maintain a clean disciplinary record throughout the sport season. Individuals who accumulate disciplinary actions during school hours are subject to athletic probation and even permanent removal. Disciplinary issues will be handled on a case by case basis with teachers, coaches, parents, and administrators.
- Athletic Fee- CCA students turn in the \$150.00 one-time athletic fee for the School Year. (\$200 for Homeschool Students).
- Parents and Students must read, review, complete, and sign all needed forms. These forms must be signed and turned into the Athletic Director before the start of the season:
  - Athletic Agreement
  - Medical Card
  - Physical Form (Turned into the Nurses Office at Campus I)
  - Travel Permission

## **Athletic Dress Code**

Each coach and/ or sponsor is given the responsibility of overseeing the athletes dress before, during, and after each athletic event as long as the athlete is under their supervision. The philosophy we espouse at Calvary Christian Academy regarding dress of our athletes includes the following:

- A. Modesty
  - B. A Godly example
  - C. A positive reflection on Calvary Christian Academy
  - D. Appropriateness of uniform for the sports activity
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1. All athletic attire must be approved by the Athletic Director and Administration.
  2. Only CCA P.E. uniforms or approved practice uniforms are to be worn for athletic practices. Student athletes may wear black or maroon sweatpants or jogging pants as a substitute for athletic shorts. If CCA P.E. uniforms are not available, athletes may wear other dress that meets CCA guidelines (i.e. girls may wear shorts for practice that are no shorter than 4 inches above the knee as reflected in the school's dress code.) Additionally, compression shorts/ shirts, under armor, sliding shorts are not considered appropriate game-day dress code. They can be worn underneath game jerseys/ athletic shorts but are not an acceptable outermost garment.
  3. Athletes need to stay in school dress code even on games dates unless coaches arrange team uniform day. Coaches are responsible for enforcing dress standards to and from all athletic events.
  4. A neat and professional appearance is to be the rule of thumb for all coaches. For athletic events and games, coaches are to dress in a manner that reflects positively on the cause of Christ and Calvary Christian Academy.
  5. For practice, physical education uniforms may not be altered in such a way that it creates attire that is immodest or "tacky" in appearance (i.e. hemming the shorts to an unacceptable length, cutting sleeves of P.E. shirts, etc.).

## **Transportation**

All home game transportation is the responsibility of the parents/ players. Calvary Christian Academy provides transportation for teams to all away games. Players must travel with the team. There are two exceptions upon notification of the coach: (1) a player may ride home with his/ her parents after the game; or, (2) a player may return with another parent provided written permission has been granted by his/ her parents. Parents may not give permission for a player to ride with another student.

### **Practices:**

Campus 1 Students need to carpool over to the CCC if the practice is held in the gym. Campus 2 Students need to carpool over to the church if practices are being held at the field (located between church and bank). Buses traveling to away games will stop at Campus 1 to pick up athletes.

## **Expectations During Games**

- **Athletics are an extension of the classroom and students are responsible for conducting themselves to the same high standards that apply while in school.**
- Students and Coaches are the only personnel allowed to enter locker rooms at home or away games. No guests are to be admitted or asked to enter the locker room at any time.
- Student athletes must not bring or use electronic devices while traveling to and from games. These devices are not allowed during any games at home or away.
- During a game or match, while our other team is playing, the team not playing should sit as a team together and cheer for the team on the court or field (i.e. Girls' team cheering for Boys' team and vice-versa.) Coaches should limit the number of team members getting up and going for drinks to one or two at a time.
- For the safety of players and officials, spectators must sit in approved spectators' sections (i.e. spectators should not sit near or on the bench during athletic contests).
- Student athletes are to travel to and from games with the team unless arrangements were already made through athletic director and coaches. If anyone is to pick up a student athlete for any purpose by anyone other than by the student's parent or guardian, a verbal message and a note from the parent(s)/ guardian(s) must be given to the coach stating permission.

- Student athletes are responsible for their own meals while traveling to and from games. Coaches usually arrange a dinner stop on the way home from away games so students must have money if they want to buy something.

### **Equipment & Facilities**

- Extreme care and caution should be taken in the use of facilities. Coaches should enlist the help of athletes to ensure that every field, court, and bus is left in the condition in which it was found. All cups, bottles, and other trash should be picked up. Any student defacing or destroying property will be disciplined according to school policy. Activities by teams should be limited to the area specifically designated for the team's use. All other areas are off limits.
- Uniforms are the property of Calvary Christian Academy. The coach has the responsibility for distributing and collecting uniforms. Athletes are responsible for the care of the uniform and should follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning after each use. An athlete who loses a uniform must pay the replacement cost for that uniform. Uniforms which show more than normal wear may also have to be replaced and must be paid for by the student. Uniforms are not to be altered or tailored by the athlete. All uniforms are to be cleaned and returned to the coach and accounted for within one week of the final game of the season.
- All equipment used by athletic teams at Calvary Christian Academy is the property of the school. At the beginning of each season, the coach will be given an inventory of the equipment checked out to him/ her. The care of the equipment is the responsibility of the coach. After each practice and game, a careful check should be made to make sure that all equipment is accounted for. No equipment should be checked out to students for personal or home use. At the end of the season, all equipment should be returned within one week of the final game.

### **Coaches**

- Each coach and/ or sponsor is given the responsibility to develop this philosophy in the sport which he/ she leads. He/ she is to impart these principles to each student and endeavor to make them a part of the athlete's life.
- Coaches are responsible for maintaining discipline, order, and unity of the team for which they are privileged to train. Any rule violations that relate to Calvary Christian Academy must be reported through the Athletic Director to the administration for review.
- Attitude plays a vital role in providing a quality athletic program. The athlete and coaches alike must maintain a positive, and working relationship with each other as well as the administration.

If a working relationship is unable to be maintained, it will become necessary to make changes or corrections. For that reason, an open line of communication is necessary between all parties concerned. A griping spirit or a complaining tongue will not be tolerated.

- Coaches are responsible for the student athletes placed in their care. After all games and practices, the coach is responsible for the student athlete until he leaves the school premises or is placed in the care of his parents or guardian. Coaches are not to leave until all student athletes in their care are off the grounds. Coaches are not to take students home or to other destinations without written approval of parents or guardian.
- Coaches are still to take responsibility of their players during downtime between or after matches. Often times teams will stay to watch another match or contest and it is imperative that coaches monitor and work together with the team captains to maintain the appropriate behavior and school standards.

## **Calvary Christian Academy Sports Offerings**

### Fall Sports

- Boys Soccer
- Girls Volleyball (Varsity & Junior Varsity)

### Winter Sports

- Boys Basketball (Varsity, Junior Varsity)
- Girls Basketball (Varsity & Junior Varsity)

### Spring Sports

- Girls Soccer

## **Delaware Valley Christian Athletic Conference**

Calvary Christian Academy is a proud member of the Delaware Valley Christian Athletic Conference. The following are member schools in the DVCAC. CCA regularly competes against these schools throughout the athletic year.

**Faith Baptist** 30505 Dagsboro Rd, Salisbury, MD 21804

**Chestertown Christian** 401 Morgnec Rd Chestertown, MD 21620

**Fairwinds Christian Academy** 801 Seymour Rd Bear, De 19701

**Fairton Christian Center** 199 Fairton-Millville Rd. Fairton, NJ 08320

**Greenwood Mennonite School** 12802 Rd 631, Greenwood, DE 19950

### **CONCLUSION**

We realize that no handbook can anticipate and comprehensively answer every question. Our Athletic Director, Shelley Jackson, is available to discuss any concerns or questions about any of our athletic programs or about the progress of your child. She can be reached at [sjackson@wearecca.com](mailto:sjackson@wearecca.com).

CCA student athletes priorities should be

1. God
2. Family
3. School
4. Sports

# What it means to be a LION:

## Lead

We expect our student athletes and coaches to use their platform to lead, influence others, and glorify God on the field of competition and in the classroom

Proverbs 11:14

## Integrity

We expect our student athletes and coaches to be honest, moral, and upright during trials created and replicated by athletic competition.

Proverbs 10:9

## Obedient

We expect our student athletes and coaches to hear, trust, submit, and surrender to God's Word. Be modest in their opinions of themselves and use their talents and abilities to Glorify God.

John 14:15

## Nobility

We expect our student athletes to be of high character, setting the example for others to follow, motivated by how their performance benefits and serves others more than themselves.

Philippians 2:3

## Strength

We expect all student athletes and coaches to maintain poise and harness emotions in stressful, competitive situations.

Philippians 4:13

## Student/ Parent Athletic Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_(Print), as a member of Calvary Christian Academy athletic team, agree to abide by the following rules and standards of conduct. I further acknowledge that penalty for misconduct can result in extra running, other miscellaneous punishment, early morning practices, suspension, or dismissal from the team or school.

1. I read and agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the CCA Athletic Handbook.
2. I agree to follow all the guidelines pertaining in this Student / Parent Athletic Handbook.
3. I agree to treat coaches, adults, and players with proper Christian respect.
4. I agree to personally obtain prior permission from my coach if I must be late or miss a team function.
5. I agree to keep an attitude of encouragement towards my teammates in every situation.
6. I recognize the lack of practices due to injury or other causes may limit my playing time.
7. I agree to attend all practices and games, home and away, unless excused by my coach.
8. I agree to inform my coach of an illness or injury that I feel may affect my playing ability.
9. I agree to inform my coach of transportation problems that may arise.
10. I agree to perform any function that the coach in his/her judgment (not mine) determines best for the team's success.
11. I agree to give 100% effort on the playing field or court during all practices and games.
12. I realize that being late due to detention is UNEXCUSED and WILL NOT be tolerated.
13. I agree to maintain the necessary academic standard, and will inform my coach of any academic problems I may encounter, such as low grades, term papers due, or upcoming tests, which may necessitate help in managing my time properly or include tutoring.
14. I agree to take good care of my uniform and will pay to repair or replace it if damaged or lost due to my negligence.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE RULES AND STANDARDS AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian Signature                      Date