



Temple Christian
Pioneers

Athletic Handbook

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Athletic Directory

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Athletic Handbook

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Purpose

The purpose of this handbook is to present policies to be followed by student athletes, parents, coaches and fans. New situations and circumstances will certainly develop and may not be referred to specifically in this handbook, the school and its administration does reserve the right to interpret and amend the policies at any time.

Philosophy

The athletic department of Temple Christian school is a vital part of the education of its students as it strives to provide opportunities for its students to pursue athletic achievement while challenging the students to grow physically, intellectually and spiritual through the challenge of athletics. Temple Christian School athletics strives to develop Christian student athletes to thrive in competitive settings to further their relationship with their peers, their coaches and most importantly Jesus Christ.

The athletic department strives to emphasize sportsmanship, spiritual growth, team unity and spirit, academic responsibility, leadership, and competitive excellence throughout the department. Participation in athletics at Temple Christian School is a privilege (not a right) and is open to all students who meet the criteria of academics set forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Temple Christian Athletic Department and School Board. Temple Christian athletes are also held to a high standard of character, academics and athletic skills. All teams will strive to do their best to embody the true spirit and philosophy of the Temple Christian School Athletic Department.

The Athletic Department is philosophically opposed to sport specialization. We strongly encourage student athletes to participate in as many of the offered sports at Temple Christian as they possible. Each sport will enhance their overall athletic ability, improve the overall performance of multiple sports and help them individually to improve in their preferred sport.

Governing Bodies

Temple Christian School is a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA), which abides by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS). Regulations and policies of the OHSAA can be found by going to www.ohsaa.org

Temple Christian school is also a member of the Northwest Central Conference and must abide by the by-laws set forth in its constitution as approved by its members. More information about the NWCC can be found by going to www.nwccsports.com

Expectations

Students, student athletes, coaches, parents are expected to demonstrate the upmost in Christian character and principles in all circumstances. It is expected that each person associated with the Temple Christian School Athletic Department will support and encourage our players in a fervent yet Christ-like manner.

Student athletes are expected to give their maximum efforts while maintaining the attitude of Jesus Christ at all times, behaving in a Christ-like manner while competing in sport. Student athletes are also expected to maintain the same Christ-like attitude in their classrooms, locker rooms, at opposing schools, at home, and in our community.

All representatives and associates of Temple Christian school are being constantly evaluated and are expected and will be held to a high standard in their attitudes in the private and public realms. Temple Christian school strives to be a shining light for Christ competing in public arenas. Specifically when "on the road" it is the expectation that this standard is upheld and attitudes and actions are honoring and pleasing to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Expectations for Athletes

- 1) Student Athletes are expected to follow the rules and policies as described in the Temple Christian School handbook. Including but not limited to the guidelines on the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. Involvement in sexual misconduct, possession of weapons, hazing, bullying, and all other conduct policies both in and out of the school setting.
- 2) Students who receive a suspension of any kind from school administration will also be suspended from participating in all athletic events correlating with the amount of days of the suspension.
- 3) Student Athletes must meet all academic expectations as set forth in this document ("Eligibility")
- 4) Athletes are expected to be committed to the team. They are expected to attend every practice and contest, unless excused by their coach. Coaches have the ability and permission to formulate their own policies of results for student athletes who chose not to adhere to their commitment to the team. Timely communication is expected from students to coaches should such attendance be an issue. Student athletes who cannot commit to the team schedule risk having consequences imposed on them by their coaches that can include but is not limited to loss of playing time, and or missed games. Please keep in mind that school teams take priority over outside teams/leagues/groups that the student may be involved with. In some cases OHSAA rules prohibit participation in outside athletic teams during the season, if you have any concerns or questions about participation in a non-school team please consult your coach BEFORE involvement.

Expectations for Coaches

- 1) Coaches will be the ultimate models of Christ at all times.
- 2) Coaches should NEVER leave their athletes unsupervised. The Coaching staff is responsible for each athlete until he/she is picked up after practices and/or games. In some circumstances coaches may use parents or other coaches to assist in supervision.
- 3) The coach is responsible for distribution and care of uniforms before, during and after the season.
- 4) Coaches are responsible to distribute a schedule of practices and games in a timely manner. The athletic office needs a copy of this schedule. Changes in the schedule need to be communicated appropriately and effectively. Coaches are encouraged to pursue the effective use of technology to communicate to their players and player's parent/guardians.
- 5) Coaches must carry a file with them to each contest game that includes the emergency medical form for each student-athletes in their care.
- 6) Each coach is responsible for directing their practices, scrimmages and games in such a way that is appropriate for the age and level of play, remembering that the students health, and safety must be protected.
- 7) Care of equipment, upkeep of benches, cleanliness of locker rooms, and care of facilities is the responsibility of coaches and their staff.
- 8) Christ honoring sportsmanship and behavior is expected from every coach and their staff. Head Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their staff.
- 9) Coaches are responsible for maintaining the behavior and attitude of their athletes. Coaches can work with the athletic director in certain situations if further discipline and action is need other than that which has been implemented by the coach.
- 10) Coaches are expected to use the proper protocol for the purchase of new equipment and or uniforms.
- 11) Coaches are expected to the best of their ability to maintain a balanced budget for their specific department.
- 12) Coaches are expected to obtain and maintain the proper coaching licenses and certifications as set forth by the OHSAA.

Expectations for Parents

- 1) Parents are expected to encourage every athlete, maintaining a Christ-centered attitude as they represent Temple Christian school and God's kingdom. Parents are expected to display a positive enthusiasm in their verbal and non-verbal communication.
- 2) During the course of a given athletic year, occasional misunderstandings and/or problems may arise between a student, parent, coach, etc. This sometimes can be attributed to lack of effective communication between the parties involved. We strive to implement biblical policies in our pursuit of effective and Christ-like reconciliation and communication. Players and parents should first make their concerns known to a coach in an effective and appropriate setting (prior to contacting administration). Please note that coaches are advised NOT to address playing time of athletes as a concern of a parent/guardian. Appropriate issues to discuss include physical and mental conditions of a child, ways to improve athletic skills, or concerns about the child's behavior.
- 3) Parents must understand the commitment that is needed in order for their child to participate in athletics. This includes scheduling family vacations, participation in outside groups or leagues, and other situations that occur in a given athletic season. When a student-athlete misses practices, scrimmages and/or games it affects team chemistry, personal physical condition, the performance level of the individual, and the performance of the team. It is important to understand that some sports seasons take place during breaks in the regular school calendar.
- 4) Parents are expected to respect the coaches and the giving of their time. Coaches make a huge commitment to the school and our program and they should be treated with respect. A Commitment to promptness in pick-up and drop-off of student athletes is appreciated.
- 5) Parents are expected to assist the Temple Christian Booster club with concession stand workers, and clean up at events. The Temple Christian booster club donates thousands of dollars each year to various programs at TCS to help improve facilities and teams but also to alleviate some of the financial burdens that sports place on student-athletes families
- 6) A willingness to serve is greatly appreciated and vital to a flourishing Athletic Department.
- 7) During competition it is important the parents and fans model Christ-like sportsmanship by remaining a spectator during play, not interfering with the coach as he/she attends to the coaching needs of the team, by not making derogatory or negative comments towards other parents, fans, officials, coaches and administrators. Provide the love, acceptance and emotional support for your child regardless of the outcome of the competition.

Athletic Team Opportunities

FALL SPORTS	Var	JV	JH	ELEM
Boys Golf	X			
Boys Soccer	X		X	K-6
Girls Soccer				K-4
Girls Volleyball	X	X*	X	5 th & 6 th

WINTER SPORTS	Var	JV	JH	ELEM
Boys Basketball	X	X	X	3-6
Girls Basketball	X		X	5-6^
Boys/Girls Bowling	X			
Cheerleading	X	X	X	Cheerleading Camp Jan/Feb

SPRING SPORTS	Var	JV	JH	ELEM
Boys Baseball	X		^	^
Boys/Girls Track & Field	X		X	

Please Note:

*Freshman team possible when the numbers of participants dictate

^These sports will be offered pending number of students signed-up.

Competition

Temple Christian School's coaches are committed to teaching Christ honoring competitiveness by instilling and teaching character in the heat of competition. Coaches will strive in developing teamwork, unity, honesty and integrity while teaching students to become Christ honoring leaders.

Temple Christian's interscholastic teams will strive to compete at their highest level playing every game/match/event/meet to win with integrity and honesty. Teams will also strive to respond to both winning and losing with grace and sportsmanship as to represent the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

At the Junior High level, learning the process of winning through fundamentals and skill development will be key to the social development and orientation of team building as well as individual skill building towards their participation in our highest levels of athletics

At the JV level, participation and continued skill development will continue to be goals while training and competing for a role in the success of the varsity program.

At the Varsity level, skill reinforcement and excellence along with team spirit and competing to win at the highest level of High school competition will be the competitive focus.

While coaches, at all levels enjoy allowing all players to play; it will be the attempt of the coaching staffs at the various levels to balance development of skill and competitive nature. There is no guarantee of playing time at any level of TCS athletics except where dictated by the organization (particularly at the Elementary levels).

Team / Player Selection

- 1) For some teams it may be necessary to have a deemed "Try-out" period depending on the number of spots feasibly available for athletes. If this is a case this time period will be clearly dictated by the head coach.
- 2) Academically eligible students will be selected based on attitude, effort and talent. The number of players on a team will be large enough to form a sensible squad that can compete strongly in their given sport.

Eligibility to Play / Practice

Temple Christian school will follow the guidelines of the Ohio High School Athletic Association regarding JH and HS eligibility for athletics. In addition student-athletes will follow guidelines set forth in this handbook by the Temple Christian administration and athletic department. The eligibility rule requires students in JH and HS to finish each quarter with a minimum 1.7 grade point average (GPA) in order to maintain eligibility for the immediate proceeding quarter. In addition students who are failing more than 1 course during a given quarter will be put on immediate academic probation. During academic probation students will not be allowed to participate in scrimmages, matches, meets, or games (they may participate in practice but this is up to the discretion of the head coach). Specific questions regarding academic eligibility should be directed towards Bruce Bowman who handles sports (academic) eligibility.

On the day of a school-sponsored athletic event, students must be at school for a minimum of the final four periods of the day (no including lunch period). This does not include scheduled "official" college visits, approved family emergencies, and schools sponsored field trips. Please inform/ask your head coach if there is a question about a planned or absence when in doubt attend school.

The following forms must be on file with the athletic department for ALL JH & HS student athletes before they participate in a school sponsored athletic team PRACTICE, scrimmage, and/or game.

OHSAA Approved Physical form as completed by a Physician

OHSAA participation waiver

St. Rita's Medical Center waiver for Athletic Trainer care

Impact concussion management form

Ohio Department of Health Concussion information sheet

Game Schedules

Game schedules are published every season. There are printed every season (includes all sports for that particular season) and placed in each office. You can also find a calendar version on our website "teams and seasons calendar". Every effort is made to not make changes to schedule once it has been published but changes are inevitable. Changes are communicated in several ways including the one call system, twitter, and on the main page of the Temple Christian website under the events section. Please make every effort to check the status of these games through one of these avenues or by local media outlets before calling the school office as this become difficult and time consuming to field so many inquiries. It is our goal to use every media, electronic outlet at our disposal to effectively communicate changes in a timely manner.

Game Travel / Transportation

If a bus is being used for team transportation then all team members are expected to ride the team bus to and from the scheduled school sponsored event. Special arrangements due to *unforeseen* circumstances in travel do arise and these need to be communicated effectively and in a timely manner to the head coach.

Parents who car-pool for a team at the JH and HS levels must have their insurance card and driver's license on file in the HS office.

Compensation forms for HS teams who must use carpooling as their means of transportation are available upon request from the athletic department. These must be approved by both the department and the head coach. The Rate for mileage re-imbusement for the TCS Athletic department shall be \$15 per mile.

Sports and Health Issues

- 1) The OHSAA and Temple Christian School mandate that all athletes must be given a physical examination prior to their participation in athletics and complete the necessary OHSAA Certified Physical forms. If a student misses practice time or games for a "diagnosed" injury a note of clearance from a doctor and/or clearance by our certified athletic trainer is necessary.
- 2) All JH and HS coaches, assistant coaches, and volunteer coaches are certified in CPR, First aid and concussions.
- 3) Head Injuries: With the increased concern over concussion management parents/guardians are required to sign the health department concussion protocol sheet. Also parents must agree to follow proper concussion processes in the return to play protocol as stipulated by St. Rita's medical center.
- 4) Temple Christian school uses a certified athletic trainer as provided by St. Rita's medical center and encourages students and families to utilize their expertise regarding sports related injuries.

Uniforms

School uniforms are provided for each sport, some of these are property of Temple Christian School and some are purchased by a participate fee as stipulated in some sports. For all uniforms please take the proper precautions to take care of these uniforms.

1. Take proper care of the uniform. Unless otherwise instructed, all uniforms should be washed in cold water and line dried.
2. Some uniforms will be collected and washed by a coach and/or volunteer depending on the nature of the sport. Others will be the responsibility of the student athlete to maintain its care. Remember that school issued and owned uniforms are the property of the school and failure to maintain those uniforms and any cost to replace them due to negligence will fall on the student or the student's family.
3. Students/parents agree to pay for any school owned uniform that is lost.
4. Some athletes may be required to purchase other items such as socks, warm-ups, shoes, etc. These are the responsibility of each athlete and these items are kept by the athletes.
5. Dress-down days for student athletes to wear sports related apparel during the academic school days are stipulated by the school administration and communicated by the head coach. These will only take place with permission from the head coach and administration and on a specific day designated by the coach. (Maximum 1 day per week)

Sports Letters

Due to the ever-rising cost of sports letters, pins and numerals these awards are awarded on participation in the athletic department as a whole and not on a sport-by-sport basis. Varsity letters and JV letters are awarded if the student was deemed to have participated in at least ½ of the scheduled season.

NCAA

Athletes and parents may contact the head coach, athletic director or guidance counselor for the latest edition of the NCAA guidelines for student/athletes. Information can also be found on the website: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. This website contains detailed information regarding collegiate athletic participation. The NCAA governs athletics at Division I, II, and III schools. Other collegiate experiences such as NAIA Div. I and II, NJCAA, NCCAA Div. I and II all have specific guidelines for participation. For specific concerns please contact the Athletic department.