



CCA Athletic Handbook

2025-2026



Introduction

Dear Christ's Church Academy Parents and Students,

Please allow me to welcome you to the CCA Eagle Family! As you can see, we are extremely proud of our rich athletic tradition at CCA and proudly bleed Maroon and Orange. As you begin to review this handbook, you will soon understand the unique privilege it is to glorify Christ as a CCA student athlete. We believe that athletics is simply another branch of the CCA ministry and therefore exist to continue the mission of our school. The mission of Christ's Church Academy is to make disciples, better disciples, and more disciples through excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.

The coaches at CCA have a deep personal relationship with Christ and will take the time throughout the season and beyond to disciple athletes as they grow in their relationship with Christ. Our athletic programs are built on dedication, commitment, discipline, effort, love for others and school pride. Our teams will strive to be successful on the field/court of play and will seek a competitive spirit from all student athletes. It is the desire of our athletic department that you partner with us as we seek to further the Kingdom of God through athletics at CCA.

In Him,

Justin Sirmon

Athletic Director

Christ's Church Academy

Note: the Information found in this Handbook is supplemental to the Parent/Student Handbook as well as the FHSA Handbook.



Philosophy

The athletic department at Christ's Church Academy exists to grow each student athlete's personal relationship with Christ. We desire to bring Glory to God through our participation and involvement in athletics. While our ultimate focus is on Christ, our teams will also compete at the highest levels. We believe in developing a winning program that will push our student athletes to become their very best. Student athletes will be encouraged to give their best in their walk with Christ and their best on the field/court of play. Our department will teach lifelong lessons that will have lasting effects for years to come. It is fundamental to our philosophy that each athlete participates in off-season and summer workouts. The principles and lessons learned in the classroom, at home, and through the local church, can be put into practice through athletics. Character is shaped through athletic competition and will carry over into all other areas of life. We desire for our athletes to grow spiritually by teaching them to think and act like Christ in the competitive arena as well as to model Godly character through their words, attitudes, and deeds. Our goal is for students to graduate from our program with a greater understanding of their God-given purpose, who they are in Christ, and how they can serve others. It is our desire that every athlete, coach, student, and parent enjoy the total experience of athletics at CCA

Mission and Vision

The CCA Athletic Department will work in alignment with the school's mission statement. The mission of Christ's Church Academy is to make disciples, more disciples, and better disciples through academics, athletics, and the arts. Our department will work in conjunction with the school and the church to provide the best opportunity for each child. We envision that our student athletes will experience transformation by becoming a lifelong follower of Christ and that they will love and lead with excellence in a broken world.

Mascot and Colors

We are the Eagles and our school colors are maroon, orange, and white.

Association

Christ's Church Academy is a member of the FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association). The FHSAA is a governing body for Florida high school athletics and provides



requirements for participation. All items found in this handbook are in addition to the FHSAA handbook and the CCA Parent/Student Handbook.

Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is having pride in your school, your team and yourself. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner. CCA will follow the biblical application of Proverbs 22:1, “A good name is to be more desired than great riches.” Keeping this application in mind, CCA strives to maintain a Christ like reputation that is respected in the community but most importantly brings glory to our Lord and Savior. We ask that all fans and players respond with grace in defeat and humility in victory. All fans and spectators are to avoid criticizing players, coaches or referees and should discourage fellow spectators who display inappropriate behavior. Failure to comply with our sportsmanship policy will be grounds for dismissal from any game, practice, or event that Christ’s Church Academy participates in.

Athletes

- Play hard within the rules of the game.
- Win with humility, lose graciously, and congratulate the opposing players and coaches.
- Respect officials and respect their decisions.
- Remember that you represent your school, your coaches, you family, yourself and ultimately Christ.
- Remain positive towards coaches and teammates.
- Respect the property and facilities of CCA as well as those of your opponents.

Spectators

- Treat opposing players, coaches and fans with respect and courtesy.



- Show respect and constraint towards all officials.
- Serve as positive role models for our students.

Being a Christ's Church Academy Eagle is a Privilege

Participating in athletic programs at Christ's Church Academy is a privilege. We believe that community, discipline, integrity, sportsmanship, and other honorable qualities are linked to athletic involvement. Participating in athletics offers our students the opportunity to

represent the entire school and community. Therefore, a student athlete's behavior, conduct and attitude must align with the guidelines and policies found in the CCA Parent/Student Handbook. Athletes may be denied the privilege to participate in athletics if they fail to meet academic or behavioral expectations, including conduct out of school.

Sports Offered

CCA offers 11 different sports across more than 20 teams. The sports available are: Football, Cross Country, Golf, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, and Track and Field. Depending on participation numbers and skill levels, the CCA Athletic Department may offer middle school, junior varsity, and varsity teams in each sport. Please note that, in some cases, fewer than three teams may be available for a particular sport. For example, CCA may not offer a middle school or JV golf team, but middle school students and underclassmen are still eligible to try out for and potentially make the varsity team based on their ability.

Fall Sports

- Football
- Girls cross country
- Boys cross country
- Boys golf
- Girls golf
- Girls volleyball



- Football Cheer

Winter Sports

- Boys basketball
- Boys soccer
- Girls soccer
- Basketball Cheer
- Competition Cheer

Spring Sports

- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys tennis
- Girls tennis
- Boys track and field
- Girls track and field



Policies

Student Conduct

As members of an athletic team, athletes are high-profile representatives of Christ's Church Academy. Students are expected to act in an appropriate manner. The following behaviors are inappropriate and will not be tolerated on or off campus, or through social media:

- Fighting
- Profanity
- Use or possession of/being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs including vaping
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Rude or disrespectful behavior
- Taunting opponents or officials
- Destruction of property
- Obscene gestures
- Derogatory or degrading comments

** Students who exhibit any of the above behaviors or any other inappropriate behavior will be suspended from athletic competition pending further investigation. Administration will determine the length of suspension.

Practice/Game Attendance

We believe that to become a program of excellence a certain level of commitment is required. Therefore, practice and game attendance are a necessity. Unexcused missed practices/games could result in dismissal from the team. The coach along with the Athletic Director reserves the right to make this decision.



School Attendance

Students participating in any athletic competition must be present during the regular school day on the day of a game and remain in school for a minimum of four full class periods unless approved by the Athletic Director. When athletes leave school early for an event, all work that is due on that day must be submitted to the teacher before leaving for the game. Athletes are also responsible to obtain work that will be due the following day before leaving campus.

****Athletes are expected to be in school at the beginning of the school day regardless of the time the athletic contest ends the prior evening unless approved by the Athletic Director and Upper School Principal.**

Practice Frequency and Duration

Practices will be held after school, and times are determined by gym and field availability. During certain seasons, practices may be tiered to accommodate the number of teams and limited field/gym use. Most practices will last roughly two hours. Practices may be held before school if first approved by the Administration.

Conduct

CCA aspires for athletes to always represent themselves in a Christ honoring manner. If a student is suspended from school the student is ineligible to participate in practice, games or events until the suspension is served. If at any time a student athlete demonstrates poor conduct in or out of the classroom the principal along with the Athletic Director reserves the right to withhold the athlete from participation until his/her conduct improves.



General Program Expectations- Practices and Games

All athletes are expected to be at every scheduled practice and game unless absent from school or previously arranged with the coach. Balancing academic, athletic, social, and family responsibilities is required of every student athlete.

We believe every student athlete should control their effort and attitude (2 Timothy 1:7). All CCA student athletes are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude and work hard in practices and games.

Although specific team rules may vary, every CCA athlete is expected to:

- Be punctual- arrive on time and prepared for team activities.
- Respect authority- all decisions of coaches and officials.
- Handle success and failure with a positive attitude.
- Win with class and lose with dignity.
- Accept personal responsibility for accomplishments and mistakes.
- Set realistic individual goals and priorities.
- Demonstrate a desire to improve individual skills and understanding of their sport.

Multi-Sport Athletes

Students are cautiously permitted to participate in two sports during the same season involving teams sponsored by Christ's Church Academy, when adhering to the following guidelines:

- A written agreement between the athlete, both coaches, and parents with final approval from the Athletic Director.
- The athlete must designate the primary sport.



- Participation in the primary sport requires attendance at all regular and tournament contests without penalty from secondary sport.
- In case of overlapping sport seasons, the prior sport season has priority and athletes may not compete until the prior season has been completed. Coaches at CCA will encourage athletes to participate in multiple sports throughout the year. The A.D. will not permit coaches to suggest to players that they specialize in one sport to the exclusion of others. High school is a time when trying different sports should be encouraged.

Inclement Weather Guidelines

CCA Administration will evaluate the safety of holding practices/games during periods of potential inclement weather. These decisions will be made in conjunction with CCA Administration, officials, and opponents Administration. The decision to cancel games and practices will be made by 2:00pm. If the CCA campus is closed due to adverse weather conditions, ALL practices and games are automatically cancelled or postponed. This will be communicated with families through social media posts and email.

Playing Time

At all levels, it is the coach's responsibility to determine who will play and how much playing time each athlete receives. Student athletes have the opportunity to earn playing time through their individual performance and attitude in both practices and competitions. At no time should a parent address a coach regarding their students playing time. These decisions are the sole discretion of the head coach and are not subject for review. In addition, neither the athletic director nor any other administrative member of CCA will discuss playing time with any parent. **In summary, playing time is never guaranteed and is not an appropriate topic of conversation.**

Quitting Policy

It is expected that if the student athletes start the season, they should finish the season. Students will be given a one-week grace period at the beginning of the season where, if they decide that if a certain sport is not for them, they may leave the team. An athlete who quits after the one-week grace period will not be allowed to practice, play, or participate with any other CCA team until the original team's regular and postseason play is completed unless



approved by the athletic administration. Athletes who quit a sport will not be reimbursed athletic fees. **Note:** In some cases, an athlete may be dismissed from the team. Dismissals will be handled on a case-by-case basis with clear communication between the coach, athlete, parents, and Administration. Athletes who are dismissed will not be reimbursed athletic fees.

Uniforms and Equipment

The CCA athletic department purchases uniforms and equipment for each of the school's athletic teams and issues those items to team members. Exceptions to this policy are made on the rare occasion when student athletes purchase and then keep their respective uniforms and/or equipment.

Uniforms and equipment are to be cared for during the season by each athlete and are returned to the head coach immediately following the last game of the season. A student who does not have his/her uniform and equipment ready for competition may not be permitted to compete on that day. Uniforms and equipment purchased by CCA may not be purchased or kept by any individual at any time. Parents of athletes who do not return uniforms within two weeks following the last contest of the season will be billed for the cost of replacing the uniform(s) and equipment.

Non CCA Teams

Athletes are strongly discouraged from participating in another club sport during the same time as the CCA sport. Participation in non-school teams (AAU, Club, etc.) is allowed providing there are no scheduling conflicts with any CCA team in which that student is a member. CCA teams and their commitments must take priority over any outside team event. If any conflict should arise, the expectation would be for the student athlete to attend the CCA event. Failure to comply could result in dismissal from the CCA team.



Music

All music played at any CCA athletic event must be Christ-honoring. All music must be approved by the head coach and should be free of profanity or lyrics that are simply inappropriate. Players should provide their coach with a text copy of all music lyrics prior to the music being played. Failure to comply with these standards will result in the loss of privileges of playing music at any athletic events for that sport. Administration has the right to stop any music deemed inappropriate.

Practice Times

Times of athletic practices will be set by the coach and communicated to all participants prior to the season.

NO Sunday meetings of players or practices are permitted. All Wednesday practices will be finished by 5:30 p.m.

When school is out because of natural disasters, all practices will be canceled or postponed. In playoff situations, FHSAA will set the make-up or postponed-game itinerary and notification will be made by the athletic department.

Varsity First Approach

CCA Athletics believes that building from the bottom up is critical to growing our programs. As a small school, it is imperative that our varsity programs develop success first to improve the younger generation of athletes at CCA. Therefore, those sports which have lower number of athletes, will hold tryouts for the varsity team first, and upon varsity selection, the coaching staff and athletic director will determine whether there are enough athletes remaining to field other teams.

Lettering

To letter for a CCA varsity team, an individual must meet one of the following requirements, as determined by the coach and athletic department:



- Participate in a reasonable percentage of the games played. JV players promoted to varsity after the completion of their season are eligible to letter for that varsity team.
- Bring value to the team in some form, as determined by the coaches.
- Players receive a letter once (regardless of number of sports played) and then may receive a pin in subsequent years.

Photography Access

Photography access on game fields will be limited to those hired by CCA and/or assigned by the Athletic Department.

End-of-Season Athletic Awards Policy

At Christ's Church Academy, we celebrate the hard work, dedication, and exemplary character displayed by our student-athletes throughout the season. The following awards are presented at the end of each athletic season to honor those who exemplify Christian leadership, athletic excellence, and commitment to both their teams and their personal growth in Christ.

Award Categories:

1. Christian Leadership Award

- **Recipients:** 1 Middle School Girl, 1 Middle School Boy, 1 Varsity Girl, 1 Varsity Boy
- **Criteria:**
 - The student must demonstrate a strong walk with Christ.
 - Active involvement in a local church community is essential.
 - The student should be a positive Christian role model to their peers, embodying Christian principles in actions, attitudes, and behavior.



2. Male/Female Athlete of the Year

- **Recipients:** 1 Middle School Boy, 1 Middle School Girl, 1 Varsity Boy, 1 Varsity Girl
- **Criteria:**
 - Awarded based on superior athletic ability and skill in their sport.
 - Demonstrates leadership on the team, a positive attitude, and a strong work ethic both on and off the field/court.
 - Consistently displays dedication to training and competition.

3. Eagle Award

- **Recipients:** 1 Varsity Boy, 1 Varsity Girl
- **Criteria:**
 - The ultimate teammate who exemplifies the qualities of a CCA student-athlete.
 - **Excellence, Attitude, Godliness, Leadership, and Effort.**
 - The recipient demonstrates unwavering commitment to the team and consistently exemplifies what it means to be a positive role model in both athletic and spiritual life.

Other Academic and Athletic Awards:

1. Team with the Highest GPA

- **Recipients:** The team with the highest cumulative GPA for Middle School and High School divisions will be recognized for their academic excellence.

2. Scholar-Athlete Award

- **Recipients:** Athletes who participate in two or more sports and maintain a GPA of 3.7 or higher throughout the year will be awarded this honor.
- **Criteria:** This award highlights athletes who excel both academically and athletically.



3. Three-Sport Star Award

- **Recipients:** Athletes who participate in three or more sports during the academic year will receive this recognition.
- **Criteria:** This award recognizes student-athletes for their commitment to being involved in multiple sports while balancing the demands of each sport.

Nomination and Selection Process:

- **Nomination:**
 - Coaches and athletic staff may nominate athletes for each of the awards based on the criteria outlined above.
- **Selection:**
 - A panel, created by the Athletic Department, will review all nominations and vote on the recipients of each award.
 - The decision of the panel is final.

General Guidelines:

- These awards are given to recognize the outstanding achievements and character of our student-athletes.
- While athletic ability is important, these awards are based on overall character, leadership, and commitment, both on the field and in the classroom.
- We believe that honoring student-athletes in this way encourages excellence in all aspects of life: faith, academics, and athletics.

Injury Protocol for Student-Athletes

In the event a student-athlete is injured during a school athletic activity, whether at home or away, the coach or student must immediately notify the athletic trainer. The athletic trainer will assess the injury, provide necessary medical treatment, and determine if further medical attention is needed, such as a referral to the emergency room or a physician. Parents or guardians will be notified if a medical referral is required.



If the injury prevents the student-athlete from participating in future practices or games, they must maintain regular communication with the athletic trainer regarding the status of their injury. During recovery, the student-athlete is expected to actively engage in a rehabilitation program, which will be created by the athletic trainer with the approval of the student's physician.

Should a physician recommend physical therapy, the student must continue to work closely with the athletic trainer to monitor progress. If the student-athlete fails to participate in the prescribed rehabilitation program, they may not receive credit for the sport.

The rehabilitation process is critical for ensuring a safe return to full athletic participation. If a student-athlete requires medical treatment from a physician, the athletic trainer must receive a written release from the physician before the student can resume full participation in practices and games.

Injury should not prevent an athlete from staying engaged with the team. All injured athletes are encouraged to attend practices and games when possible, even if they cannot actively participate.

Sports Packs and Athletic Apparel

Athletes participating in athletic teams at CCA may have the opportunity to purchase athletic apparel from the BSN online store. In some cases, coaches may require the purchase of specific items.

Fees Associated with Athletic Participation

Families are responsible for athletic fees. These fees are necessary in order to provide the highest quality athletic experience possible for each athlete. The following is a list of expected athletic fees:

- Participation Fee: \$225 for middle school teams and \$275 for high school teams (no refunds after the one-week grace period).



- Team hotel and travel: These expenses can vary depending on sport and season.
- Online team stores: Team apparel
- Participation fees are due before the first game.

Dress-Down Day and Game Day Attire Policy

For dress-down days, players are allowed to wear their team shirt, provided all team members wear the same shirt in terms of color and/or design. This ensures consistency across the team on game days. If a player does not have a team shirt, they must wear their regular CCA uniform instead.

Transportation Guidelines

When transportation is provided by CCA (team bus, charter bus, etc.), students are encouraged to travel to practices and games on the provided vehicles. However, in some cases, parents may choose alternative arrangements if approved by the coach and athletic director.

- **Riding with Parents or Another Parent:**
 - Students may return from an event with their parents or another parent, but **written permission** (email, signed note, etc.) from the parent must be given to the head coach, stating who the student will be traveling with.
 - Some coaches may require the team to stay together until returning to campus, which is at the coach's and athletic director's discretion.
- **Driving Themselves:**
 - With the head coach's permission, students may drive themselves to and from practices or games. Parents must provide **written permission** (email, signed note, etc.) or pre-approve this arrangement through the athletic clearance system.
 - Students who drive themselves may not transport other students unless specifically approved by both the parent and coach/athletic director.
- **Transportation Provided by CCA:**



- Students may travel via **CCA-owned transportation** (either large or small buses) or **rental transportation** through our partnership with Student Transportation of America.
- **Drop-off Only:**
 - Please note that school-provided transportation is typically **drop-off only**. The bus will drop students off at the event but will not return them to school afterward.
 - For rental buses, the bus driver serves as the adult supervisor, similar to public school transportation.
- **Bus Driver Safety and Credentials:**
 - Our rental bus drivers:
 - Have up-to-date background checks through Duval County Public Schools and Student Transportation of America.
 - Have completed passenger management training through state curriculum.
 - Attend regular safety meetings with their company.
- **Optional Transportation:**
 - If you are not comfortable with the current transportation setup, **school-provided transportation is optional**. Parents can arrange alternative transportation for their student if desired.



Structure of the Athletic Department

Athletic Director

The athletic director serves under the leadership of and has a direct relationship with the Head of School. The athletic director oversees the total operations of the department and is assisted by other athletic staff.

Assistant Athletic Director

The Assistant athletic director serves alongside the athletic director and helps coordinate games, officials, required documents, etc.

Varsity Head Coaches

Varsity head coaches will have a direct reporting relationship with the athletic director on all functions of their positions, including program administration, operations, facilities, etc. Varsity head coaches, under the direction of the above outlined structure, will be responsible for the coaches on their coaching staff, at the varsity, junior varsity, and middle school programs. Each Varsity head coach is responsible for overseeing his/her total program. This oversight will include staffing, budget management, media relations, equipment, and uniform inventory control, etc.

Assistant Coaches

Assistant coaches work directly with the head coach and support the mission and vision of the program. Assistant coaches will receive direct instruction regarding their position description from the varsity head coach.

Coach, Parent and Player Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are difficult at times. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater



benefit to our children. As parents, when your children become involved in our programs, you have an obligation to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication parents should expect for their child's coach:

- Expectations of the student athlete
- Practice times and locations
- Team requirements
- Code of conduct
- Financial requirement and fees

Communication coaches should expect from parents:

- Notification, well in advance, of any schedule conflicts
- Medical or physical limitations of the child
- Specific concerns regarding the coach's expectations

Items Appropriate to discuss with the coach:

- Treatment of the child physically, mentally and emotionally
- Ways to help the child improve
- Concerns about the child's behavior and/or academic needs

Items NOT Appropriate to discuss with the coach:

- Playing time
- Playing position of the child
- Team strategy



- Play calling
- Other students

Parent Procedures

When issues arise, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern. **Notice-** CCA will follow the 24-hour rule. Please wait at least 24 hours to speak with the coach as emotions can be high following practice, games, and events.

1. Set up a meeting with the head coach of that sport.
2. Address your concerns with the coach.

If a Resolution is Not Reached

3. Set up an appointment with the athletic director and coach to discuss the situation.
4. If the issue is not resolved at this meeting, the appropriate next step would be to set an appointment to meet with the Principal and/or Head of School.

Eligibility

FHSAA

Christ's Church Academy is a member of the FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association). The FHSAA is a governing body for Florida high school athletics and provides requirements for participation. As a member, CCA will adhere to all FHSAA regulations regarding athletic eligibility. More information can be found at the FHSAA website- www.fhsaa.org



Academic Eligibility Policy

High school student-athletes must maintain a cumulative GPA above 2.0 each semester to remain eligible for athletic participation, in accordance with FHSAA guidelines. However, CCA will assess academic eligibility on a quarterly basis. If a student-athlete is failing two or more core classes (D or below) at the end of a quarter, CCA reserves the right to suspend the student from athletic competition until an academic improvement plan is developed. This plan will be created in collaboration with the student, teachers, parents, coach, and the academic support team.

If a student-athlete's cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of a semester, they will become ineligible for athletic participation for the following semester (e.g., if a student's GPA is 1.9 at the end of Semester 1, they will be ineligible for Semester 2).

Middle school academic eligibility is determined by the student's GPA at the end of each semester, not cumulatively.

Athletic Clearance

CCA will utilize a digital platform called "Athletic Clearance" to upload all required FHSAA and CCA athletic forms. Parents must register their children with this platform and submit all appropriate paperwork here. Instructions for registration can be found at ccajax.org.

Required Forms

The following forms must be submitted before participation in a sport. All forms can be found on the FHSAA website.

EL2- This is the FHSAA physical form. All students are required to have an annual physical. This form must be completed in its entirety and signed by a certified physician. Only FHSAA forms can be accepted.

- **EL3-** This is the parent/student consent and release form. Both the parent and the student are required to sign this form for the student to participate in athletics. Your signature on this form demonstrates that you and your child have completed the NFHS Heat Acclimatization and Concussions in Sports course.



- **GA04-** This form is for new students coming to CCA that are entering into the 10th, 11th or 12th grade or students that are non-traditional (homeschool, online, etc.). This form must be notarized.

Physician's Note

1. Any student receiving physician's care for an injury or illness which results in loss of time from school or athletic competition must provide a note from a physician clearing him/her to return without restriction to athletic competition.
2. Any student who suffers a loss of consciousness during a practice or contest may not resume athletic participation until receiving written clearance from a physician.

New Student Participation

Any student new to CCA must be completely withdrawn from previous school or matriculated from prior middle school and completely enrolled in CCA prior to participating in any off-season conditioning, practices, or games. This includes any summer activities or leagues.

Student-athletes are eligible upon completion of enrollment (as long as they meet all other eligibility standards - including, but not limited to age, limit of eligibility, preparticipation physical exam, GPA, and consent and liability release) at the school in which he or she first attends each school year. If the transfer occurs during the school year, the student may seek to immediately join an existing team if:

- Student has completed all CCA eligibility requirements
- A roster spot is available
- The student has the requisite skill and ability to participate in the sport according to the coach of the team
- The student has not participated in the same sport at another school during the same school year- unless the student meets one of the following exceptions:
 1. Dependent child of active-duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders



2. Relocation due to a foster care placement in a different school zone
3. Move due: to court-ordered change in custody due to separation or divorce, or the serious illness or death of a custodial parent
4. Authorized for good cause. The athletic eligibility of students who transfer to CCA during the school year will be determined based upon good cause by a committee comprised of the Upper School Principal, Assistant Upper School Principal, Director of Admissions, and the Director of Athletics. A good cause determination for the student's athletic eligibility will be made by the committee once all reasons and aspects related to the student transfer have been considered and discussed. A recommendation will be made by the committee to the Head of School regarding the student's athletic eligibility. The final decision will be made by the Head of School and is not subject to review/reconsideration.

Non-Traditional Student Participation

Christ's Church Academy is committed to ministering to non-traditional student families who desire to have their student-athletes participate in a Christ-centered athletic program. To be accepted, non-traditional students and their families must go through the an admissions process, including academic review. Non-traditional student athletes will be held to the same academic, spiritual, and social standards as CCA students and must maintain those standards for participation.

In addition to being admitted to CCA as a non-traditional student, the athlete must also be approved through the FHSAA office as a home school student. The following forms are required and must be submitted through the athletes online Athletic Clearance account.

FHSAA Compliance

A non-traditional student is eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition provided the student is admitted to CCA as a non-traditional student and:

1. If a student withdraws from a traditional school program, the student must register with the district school board as a home education student before participation in



any sport. The home education program must be in accordance with policy 9.2.2.1.1, 16.5, 16.6.1.1, of the FHSAA Handbook.

2. The parents of the non-traditional student must submit verification of minimum grade point average for athletics participation at the end of each semester.
3. The student must submit an admission application, be interviewed, and be accepted as a CCA non-traditional student prior to participation for the desired sport in which he/she wants to participate.
4. The student must comply with all CCA policies for student participation and all rules and regulations of FHSAA.

Name, Image, and Likeness

9.9 AMATEURISM AND NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS (NIL) The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) recognizes the importance of maintaining amateurism in high school athletics. Compliance with this bylaw does not ensure maintenance of eligibility under the eligibility standards of other athletic organizations, such as, but not limited to, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), or the governing body for a particular sport. Student-athletes are encouraged to communicate with those organizations to ensure any activity associated with Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) complies with eligibility standards. Student-athletes and their families are encouraged to seek legal counsel and tax advice when considering NIL activity. The FHSAA supports NIL education, which prepares student-athletes to make informed decisions. By providing student-athletes with knowledge about potential legal and financial drawbacks associated with NIL activities, high schools can contribute to the overall welfare of their student-athletes. The following provisions shall determine the eligibility of students who participate in interscholastic athletics for FHSAA member schools, related to amateur status.

9.9.1 General Principles. A student-athlete may not participate in an athletic activity of the FHSAA unless he/she is an amateur. An amateur is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived from the activity.



9.9.2 Activities that may Impact Amateur Status. The following activities may impact a student athlete's amateur status: (a) Competing for money or other monetary compensations; (b) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value which has not been approved by the FHSAA; (c) Capitalizing on athletic fame or performance by receiving money or gifts of a monetary nature; (d) Signing a professional playing contract in any sport or hiring a registered agent to manage his/her athletic career, other than for the purpose of advising on NIL related matters; (e) Competing under an assumed name. (f) Accepting a Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) agreement that does not adhere to FHSAA Bylaw 9.9.

9.9.3 Permissible Awards, Gifts, or Other Compensation. A student-athlete will not forfeit his/her amateur status for accepting: (a) Symbolic awards such as school letters, medals, trophies, plaques, pins, keys, or ribbons of small monetary value purchased from an established award company; (b) Rings, sweaters, jackets, or award blankets if they are provided by the school which they represent and do not exceed the value of the purchase price from an established award company; (c) Remuneration of “essential expenses” for any game in which a student-athlete participates as a player; limited to meals, lodging, and transportation; (d) A College scholarship offers. (e) A Name, Image, And Likeness (NIL) agreement as defined in FHSAA Bylaw 9.9.

9.9.4 Name, Image, And Likeness (NIL). A student-athlete may profit from the use of their own Name, Image, and Likeness subject to their compliance with FHSAA Bylaw 9.9. Permissible activities include, but are not limited to, commercial endorsements, promotional activities, social media presence, product, or service advertisements.

9.9.4.1 Name, Image, and Likeness Agreement. An NIL agreement is a fully executed, written contract that allows for student-athletes to profit from or be compensated for promoting, partnering, and/or representing product endorsements and other activities as defined in FHSAA Bylaw 9.9. An NIL agreement is limited to a student-athlete’s high school period of athletic eligibility and shall not extend beyond a student-athlete’s high school graduation date.

9.9.4.1.1 By entering into an NIL agreement, the student-athlete and his/her parent/guardians release their school, its district or governing body, and FHSAA from any liability related to, or arising from the NIL agreement.



9.9.4.1.2 The student-athlete and his/her parent/guardians shall hold harmless their school, its district or governing body, and FHSAA from any liability related to, or arising from the NIL agreement.

9.9.4.2 NIL Collectives. NIL Collectives shall not include team fundraising but does include and is not limited to, groups, organizations, or cooperative enterprises that exist to collect funds from donors and businesses, to help facilitate NIL deals for student-athletes, and/or create ways for athletes to monetize from their NIL.

9.9.4.3 Use of Member School, FHSAA, or NFHS Markings. Student-athletes are prohibited from making any reference to and will not otherwise use or authorize others to use the uniforms, logos, mascots, insignia, or identifying marks of a member school, the FHSAA, the NFHS, and/or any FHSAA, NFHS, or member school event, game, or championship when engaging in any NIL activity. Student athletes will be prohibited from monetizing their Name, Image, and Likeness with the use of their school's uniform, equipment, logo, name, proprietary patents, products and/or copyrights associated with an FHSAA member school, NFHS and/or school district, either in public, print, or social media platforms, unless granted authorization by prior written consent from the school, district or governing body of the school, or Association, respectively.

9.9.4.3.1 Student-athletes may not endorse or promote any third-party entities, goods, or services during school/district-sponsored activities or FHSAA activities.

9.9.4.3.2 No reference to FHSAA, NFHS, school, school district accolades, or championships may be used in the student's NIL activities for which they are compensated.

9.9.4.4 Prohibited NIL Engagements. Student-athletes are prohibited from engaging in any NIL activities involving the following categories of products and services: (a) Adult entertainment products and services; (b) Alcohol, tobacco, vaping, and nicotine products; (c) Cannabis products; (d) Controlled substances; (e) Prescription pharmaceuticals; (f) Gambling, including sports betting, the lottery, and betting in connection with video games, on-line games, and mobile devices; (g) Weapons, firearms, and ammunition (h) Political or social activism; and (i) NIL Collectives.

9.9.4.5 Representative of a School's Athletic Interest. No school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of a school's athletic interests as defined in



Bylaw 1.4.17 (ae), may form, direct, offer, provide, or otherwise engage in any activity outlined in FHSAA Bylaw 9.9. Representatives of a school's athletic interest as defined in Bylaw 1.4.17(f) are subject to the prohibitions included in 9.9.4.2 and 9.9.4.4(i).

9.9.4.6 Must Not Be Used to Recruit. NIL activities shall not be used to pressure, urge, or entice a student-athlete to attend a school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics. The NIL agreement shall not be used as a guise for athletic recruiting (reference Policies 36 and 37).

9.9.4.7 Student Transfers. A student-athlete who transfers after starting a sport, shall be prohibited from securing an NIL Agreement that season, unless he/she meets one of the provisions outlined in Bylaw 9.3.2.2.

9.9.5.1 Penalties Assessed to Schools. Failure to comply with FHSAA Bylaw 9.9.4 may result in the assessment of disciplinary measures outlined in Policy 36.5.3 and/or Policy 37.3.3.

9.9.5.2 Penalties Assessed to School Employees and Contractors. Failure to comply with FHSAA Bylaw 9.9.4 may result in the assessment of penalties outlined in Policy 36.5.4 and/or Policy 37.3.4 (§1006.20(2)(b)2, F.S.).

9.9.5.3 Eligibility Effect of Violation. Any violation by a student-athlete of the provisions of FHSAA Bylaw 9.9 shall result in escalating sanction. However, a student-athlete who falsifies information or who receives an impermissible benefit will be deemed ineligible in accordance with FHSAA Bylaw 9.1.2.2 or FHSAA Policy 36.5.2, respectively:

9.9.5.3.1 For a first offense, the student-athlete shall receive a formal warning. If applicable, the student shall immediately terminate/modify the NIL agreement, remove any advertisement, promotional activity, or endorsement, and return any awards, gifts, or other compensation.

9.9.5.3.2 For a second offense, the student-athlete will be ineligible to represent any member school for a period of one year from the date of discovery.

9.9.5.3.3 For a third offense, the student-athlete will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for the duration of the student-athlete's high school career.



Facility Usage

All athletic facilities are managed and supervised by Christ's Church and Christ's Church Academy. Use of facilities is limited to CCA events, athletic programs, and Christ's Church ministries. All outside usage must be requested, approved, and scheduled through the athletic department. No individual use of facilities without supervision is allowed.

Weight Room Use

- Coaches will schedule the weight room through the athletic department.
- No student is permitted to use the weight room without direct supervision from a CCA coach.
- Students must have proper workout attire, consisting of a clean, dry T-shirt, athletic shorts, socks, and athletic shoes (no cleats). Students must remove all jewelry before entering the weight room.
- No food or drinks are permitted at any time.
- Students are responsible for re-racking and cleaning the weight room after each use.
- Violations of weight room rules or policies may result in a loss of privileges.



Student Athlete Commitment

- As a Student Athlete, I will attend and be on time to practices, games, and team functions.
- As a Student Athlete, I will contact the coach by noon or earlier that day, to notify that I will be absent.
- As a Student Athlete, I will be diligent in preparation, displaying a coachable spirit, and providing great effort each time I step on the field of play.
- As a Student Athlete, I will not allow negative situations to affect my attitude, effort, or demeanor.
- As a Student Athlete, I will demonstrate respect, discipline, humility, and self-control in all situations, working towards Christ-like character on the field of play.



- As a Student Athlete, I will strive to be positive toward teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.
- As a Student Athlete, I will refrain from the use of ridicule, harassment, profanity, teasing, or name-calling.
- As a Student Athlete, I am afforded the privilege to participate in athletics, thus the responsibility rests on me to adhere to the standards set forth in all student handbooks.
- As a Student Athlete, I will maintain open avenues of communication with teammates, coaches, and parents which will help to build excellence.
- As a Student Athlete, I will speak to coaches with regards to my role, playing time, and areas of needed growth. These kinds of conversations will assist me in working towards developing my sport-specific skills, growth, and maturity in my life skills.
- Team captains will be selected based on character, leadership, and the ability to lead.
- As a Student Athlete, I will be responsible to CCA for my actions both on and off the field of play.
- As a Student Athlete, I understand that participation on a team is a privilege and not a right.
- To remain a Student Athlete in good standing (remain on the team), I must uphold the Mission Statement of the school, remain drug and alcohol free, and conduct myself accordingly.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



Parent Commitment

- As a parent, I understand and agree that the CCA Athletic Department fields competitive programs in each sport.
- As a parent, I understand and agree that all players may or may not play some during each game.
- As a parent, I understand that not all players will have equal playing time.
- As a parent, I understand and agree that the coaches will not discuss playing time with parents.
- As a parent, I understand and agree that each player will have a role to play on their respective team.
- As a parent, I understand that the coaching staff will determine the role of the player, and I will support that decision with our child, other parents, and coaches.
- As a parent, I understand and agree to let the coaches coach, and the players play, while focusing my energy on encouraging and cheering, rather than giving direction to my child from the stands or sidelines.
- As a parent, I understand and agree to pay all athletic fees associated by the published due date for each season. All participation fees and player package fees will be managed through the Finance Office and Athletic Department.
- As a parent, I understand the importance of volunteering through the athletic department during events in order to make sure those events are done in an excellent manner.
- As a parent, I agree not to raise funds or organize other parents to raise funds without the consent of the athletic director.
- As a parent, I will demonstrate Christ-like behavior in resolving conflict. I will follow the Matthew 18 principle and will not complain, gossip, or criticize those with whom I may have a disagreement.



- As a parent, I will refer to the Athletic Handbook and Parent/Student Handbook for further information.

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Coaches Commitment

- As a Coach, I am responsible for selecting Student Athletes that best represent the Mission Statement of CCA.
- As a Coach, I will use a holistic approach when evaluating a Student Athlete using qualities such as character, integrity, leadership, coachable spirit, and a love for the sport.
- As a head coach, I will have the responsibility to make sure there is no sense of entitlement based on contributions, status, or influence within the program.
- As a Coach, I will assist in the total development of all athletes by helping them through their life journey, not just their athletic journey.



- As a Coach, I will provide an open line of communication with Student Athletes that allows for questions and feedback for means of improvement.
- As a Coach, I will approach parents individually or collectively to pass along necessary feedback during the season. Athletes will also be encouraged to accurately communicate with their parents about their experiences on the team.
- As a Coach, I will take the responsibility to select team captains that will best emulate the core Christian values expected at CCA.
- As a Coach, I will communicate to Student Athletes and parents all necessary information needed for fees, practice and game schedules, and any other program needs prior to the first game.
- As a Coach, I will create and implement a meaningful practice structure to enhance instruction, development, and effective use of time for all teams within the program.
- As a Coach, I will work toward the desired outcome of developing the total athlete to become champions for Christ.
- As a Coach, I understand that coaching at CCA is a privilege and not a right. I will remain in good standing and uphold the Mission Statement of the school and conduct myself according to the standards set by the administration.

AMENDMENT OF HANDBOOK CONTENTS

Christ's Church Academy reserves the right to interpret the content of this handbook, including the policies and regulations governing academic and non-academic conduct of its students. The school reserves the right to modify and/or amend the content of this handbook at any time during the academic year.