



Grace Christian School

Athletic Department
649 Crater Lake Avenue
Medford, OR 97504
(541)858-7257 Fax (541)858-7288

SPORTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Grace Christian School offers an extra-curricular sports program for both boys and girls. We feel that participating in such a program is beneficial to the students in several areas: **1)** It provides physical conditioning and develops mental alertness; **2)** It promotes growth in self-confidence, individual discipline and cooperation with teammates; **3)** It offers a competitive atmosphere in which principles of the Christian life can be applied and spiritual lessons learned.

Our objectives in offering a sports program are to **glorify the Lord Jesus Christ** in the attitude and performance of our teams and to **provide a positive and challenging growth experience for all participants**. In order to achieve these goals, it is important that the following guidelines be observed:

PLAYERS: Students are eligible to participate in sports at GCS if they meet the following requirements:

- Carefully read and agree to abide by the GCS Sports Guidelines.
- Submit a completed Medical and Liability Release form.
- Submit a Student Athlete Agreement form signed by both parent and student.
- Submit documentation proving a recent (within one year) physical exam has been done. (Required for 6th grade cross country only, and for all 7th & 8th grade sports, valid for 2 years.)
- Maintain good overall conduct and attitude. As our athletes represent the school and ultimately our Lord, the school reserves the right to limit or deny participation due to conduct or attitude which is inconsistent with school standards.
- Maintain responsibility for completing and turning in all homework on the date due.
- Maintain your parents' standard for your academic performance. (see below)
- 100% commitment. Joining a team means a commitment to finish out the entire season and to faithfully attend practices and games. **Full-day school attendance is required for eligibility on game days.**
- Athletes who are **excused from PE class will not participate** in team competition.
- As an expression of team spirit, 6th grade cross country and all 7th & 8th grade team members, both male and female, are encouraged to wear their game jersey on game days with handbook approved pants, jeans or slacks. **NO athletic pants are to be worn.** For basketball, cross country, and track, a t-shirt must be worn under the jersey.
- PERSONALLY notify your coach (in advance when possible) of any legitimate absence from practice or game.
- 100% effort and positive attitude at all times (Col. 3:23-24).
- ABSOLUTE RESPECT for coaches, teammates, opponents and officials. Negative attitudes or critical spirits will not be tolerated.

PARENTS:

- Read and discuss these guidelines with your student athlete.
- Contact the school office with any questions regarding sports policies or guidelines.
- Determine your student's eligibility based upon his/her fulfillment of YOUR academic and behavioral expectations for them.
- Assume responsibility for your student's grades, realizing that it is not uncommon for academic performance to decline while participating in sports if not carefully monitored. It is important that all homework is turned in on the date due.
- Help your student keep his/her priorities in line. Academics still come first! Sports are truly EXTRA-curricular.
- Be willing to help with transportation or serve as a chaperone whenever possible.
- Support your student's team with your attendance at games at every possible opportunity.
- Pray with us that this team experience will be beneficial for your student and that the Lord will be glorified in the attitudes and actions of their team. Pray for our coaches!
- MODEL FOR YOUR STUDENT an attitude of respect for coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials.

(Continued on other side)

INSURANCE:

Family insurance coverage must be provided in order for a student to participate in any sport. The school provides secondary insurance for the student included in their registration fee.

AWARDS:

- CERTIFICATES will be awarded to all players who complete the season. (Grades 5-8).
- LETTERS or PINS will be awarded to middle school players (grades 6,7,8) who exhibit excellence in the following areas:
 - Complete the season.
 - Make a CONSISTENT, POSITIVE contribution to the team as determined by the coaches.
 - Spend NO MORE THAN ten (10) points in the course of a season based on the following point values:
 - Missed GAME - 6 points
 - Missed PRACTICE - 3 points
 - Tardy to PRACTICE - 1 point

Points are available for you to spend as you may need, not as a punishment. Spend them wisely.

Missing half or more of any event constitutes an absence. No points are spent if event is missed due to illness.

SPORTS FEES:

- Players are assessed a fee for each sport in which they participate. These fees cover only a portion of the costs incurred by the school.
- These costs include uniforms, equipment, referees, facility maintenance, and coaches' stipends. Sports fees are non-refundable.

5th/6th Grade - \$50.00
7th/8th Grade - \$100.00
7th/8th Grade Football - \$125.00

TRANSPORATION FEES:

\$30.00 for 7th/8th Grade Football
\$25.00 for 6th-8th Grade Cross Country
\$25.00 for 7th/8th Grade Volleyball, Basketball, Track

With the growing need to protect the school from potential litigation and the desire to provide safe transportation of our students, the school has determined that we will use ODE approved drivers when using our busses or contract with Rogue Valley Charter or First Student. At times we will use parents who have had background checks to assist in driving. To offset the rising fuel prices, a fee has been determined using the previous year's costs. Transportation fees must be paid at the beginning of each sports season. If the transportation fee is not paid by the first game, the athlete will not be allowed to participate in any game until the fee is paid.

*** Students will not be allowed to participate unless sports fees, physicals, athletic agreements and medical releases are completed and turned in to the school office by the end of the first week of practice.**

**“Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.”
Colossians 3:23-24**