

2.2.1 Athletic Code

2.5.6.1. Introduction

Students with an interest in participating in the school's extracurricular sports program must be fully aware of, and agree to, the following policies and expectations.

Students from Cornerstone Christian School who wish to participate in the extracurricular sports activities of neighboring public schools must also be fully aware of, and agree to, the following policies and expectations.

2.5.6.2 Academic Standards

The academic focus of education remains a priority, and therefore academic achievement takes precedence over athletic involvement. This means:

- Students are only eligible to play on a sports team when they have a passing grade on every course they are enrolled in.
- Students who maintain an 'F' in any subject will be eligible to attend practices but will not be eligible to play in games.
- Where the start of a new quarter falls during a sports season (of games) – the students will have a three week 'grace' period until a bank of grades are built up.
- If a student finishes a quarter with a failing grade they will not be eligible to play for the first two weeks of the new quarter. After the two week period – if all grades are above an 'F' – the student may resume playing games for their team.
- The responsibility for the decision to remove a player from a game or games rests with the principal, who will confer with the student's teachers prior to making a decision.

2.5.6.3 Eligibility

All students from Cornerstone Christian School, from the particular grade that is eligible to participate in any given competition, will be eligible to participate in the extracurricular sports program. Upon request, the school may also consider the participation of students from the American Reformed church community who are home schooled.

2.5.6.4 Absence

Any absence from regular classes on a 'game day' (for reasons other than medical appointments etc.) will disqualify the student from game participation on that day.

2.5.6.5 Players Code of Conduct

All athletes' participation in extracurricular sports must set and maintain a high standard of behavior. Athletes are ambassadors of Cornerstone Christian School and therefore the expectations go beyond compliance with the school rules in the school handbook. Qualities that demonstrate empathy, the use of appropriate language, matters of self-control and respect for other participants, and actions consistent with developing a healthy Christian lifestyle are needed, both on and off the game court.

In light of this, students will:

- treat opponents with respect; shake hands after contests.
- respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest.
- accept seriously the responsibility of representing the school by displaying positive behavior at all times.
- play in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values.
- treat teammates and coaches with respect during both practices and games.

Participants understand that a violation of the above expectations will result in suspension of play for the remainder of the game and possible suspension in future games. Reinstatement onto the team by a suspended player will occur only after an interview with the school principal.

A high level of commitment is required from those who participate in team play. Participation at all team practices and in scheduled games is very important. Students who need to miss a practice and/or a game must inform the coach; continued absences may jeopardize a position on the team and/or playing time.

2.5.6.6 Student Dress

The students will wear the CCS PE uniform and any protective equipment that is required to play a particular sport. The coach will provide specific instructions for each event.

2.5.6.7 Participation Fees

The cost for running an extracurricular sports program is borne by those who participate.

2.5.6.8 Transportation

The primary means of transportation to and from games will be by volunteer drivers. When volunteer drivers (and multiple vehicles) are used, the vehicles will travel together (convoy style).

2.5.6.9 Public School Participation

Students wishing to participate in extracurricular sports activities from a neighboring public school will:

- inform the principal of their intentions prior to the beginning of their activities.
- ensure that their parent(s) inform the teacher of all scheduled away games that will cause them to be absent.
- complete any assignments given because of missed classes.
- in the event of time conflicts between public school games and Cornerstone games, the student will support the Cornerstone team's efforts unless other arrangements have been made with the coach.

2.5.6.10 Parental Approval

Parents are to be aware of these policies (CCS-Athletic Code) and must give consent to having their children participate by signing the attached *Parental Consent for Student Athletes*. All *Parental Consent* forms must be submitted to the Sponsor Teacher before the first practice.

2.5.6.12 Parental Consent for Student Athletes

Cornerstone Christian students who participate in athletics represent the school in a distinctive way. These students, therefore, take upon themselves the responsibility of defending and promoting the ideals of the school by their actions and words. Athletes are to behave in a manner consistent with that expected of a Christian student and to conduct their lives to bring honor and respect upon themselves and their school.

Students are asked to sign the following:

I realize it is a privilege to represent Cornerstone Christian School in athletic events. I understand that at Cornerstone Christian School there is a Christian standard of behavior that monitors our words and deeds in the classroom, at athletic activities, and in everyday life. If I seriously violate these standards, I will be subject to discipline.

If my actions are such that I am judged to have violated the letter or intent of this code, I agree to submit to the discipline of the principal/sponsor teacher.

SIGNED: _____
(Student's signature)

At least one parent is asked to sign the following:

I have read the Cornerstone Christian School Athletic Code and will encourage my child to live by this code. I also agree to cooperate to the utmost with the coaches and teachers of Cornerstone Christian School.

I hereby give my son/daughter – _____ permission to participate in _____ (athletic sport).

SIGNED: _____
(Parent's signature)

DATE: _____