

ATHLETIC POLICY

OPEN LETTER TO FANS AND PARTICIPANTS: It has become increasingly important that we all be aware of our testimony and actions at the athletic events in which students from Webster Christian School participate. The eyes of the Rochester area are upon us, looking to see if there is anything different in the way we act and in the way we play. We belong to Jesus Christ and are commanded to be His ambassadors and to do all things in His name. To this end, we have instituted a Players' and Parents' Code of Conduct. Please read it below and adhere to it!

PLAYERS' AND PARENTS' CODE OF CONDUCT: Some of the values encouraged through a Christian athletic program include discipline in meeting goals, cooperation with coach and team members, good sportsmanship, respect for authority, and self-control under the natural stress of competition. It is the intent of the athletic program at Webster Christian School for our student-athletes to always be positive witnesses for Christ. In essence, we are attempting to turn out Christians, students, and athletes - in that priority order.

- **Player's Code**

1. Play the game for the game's sake
2. Be generous in winning and graceful in losing
3. Always be fair at all costs
4. Obey the laws of the game
5. Work for the good of your team
6. Accept the decisions of your coaches and officials with good grace
7. Believe in the honesty of your opponents
8. Conduct yourself with honor and dignity
9. Strive to always do your best

- **Parent's Code**

1. Lead by example, not criticism
2. Make your child's athletic experience a positive one
3. Attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not intensify it
4. Be kind and respectful to all players, coaches, and officials
5. Applaud good play by your child, his/her teammates, and their opponents
6. Leave coaching to your child's coaches
7. Accept the results of each game and encourage your child to do the same
8. Help your child understand that winning also means doing his/her best

SPORTS PHYSICALS: Requirements for Sports Participation are as follows: New York State Law also mandates that any student who participates in a sport must receive a yearly physical. A current medical exam is required by a NYS licensed physician, NYS licensed nurse practitioner or physician's assistant working in collaboration with a NYS licensed physician. The exam must specify the student is eligible to participate in sports or indicates that the exam is a normal exam.

1. Medical exams are valid for qualifying a student's participation in sports for a period of 12 consecutive months. No Extensions on physicals are accepted.
2. The examination is valid through the last day of the month in which the examination was conducted.
3. If the twelve-month period for the examination expires at the start of, or during, a sports season, participants may conclude the season as long as a health history update was completed prior to the sports season.

Any medical restrictions must be cleared by an MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant prior to the start of a new sports season. Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers may NOT clear an athlete to play. Student athletes may NOT begin a new season with outstanding restrictions. Student athletes restricted for spring sports must have clearances prior to the beginning of the fall sports season. Current Recertification Forms must be completed and signed by the parent, or legal guardian, and the student within 30 days of the start of a sport. Recertification forms for 7th and 8th graders who are participating in Section Classification for JV/V sports are sport and level specific. The recertification attests to the student athlete's health and is a legal document that is placed in the health record. If a student forges a parent signature, discipline procedures will be followed.

The following is a list of WCS sports and when they begin:

Modified – Grades 7, 8, 9

JV High School – Grades 9-10

Varsity High School – Grades 9-12

Fall – Mid-August

Soccer – Boys and Girls Varsity & Boys Modified

Volleyball – Girls Varsity

Winter - November

Basketball – Boys and Girls Varsity & Boys JV

Cheerleading - Girls (extra curricular, when available)

Basketball – Boys Modified

Spring – March through mid-April

Volleyball – Girls Modified (when available)

Softball – Girls Varsity (spring)

Baseball – Boys Varsity (March through May)

Most school districts conduct sports physicals throughout the year. You may want to contact your school district to see if they will be doing this. Please plan ahead when calling your own doctor to schedule a physical as they can not always be scheduled right away. Physicals are only good for one calendar year. **We must have an up-to-date physical record on file in the office.**

ATHLETIC FEE: Each student who participates in a team sport must pay an athletic fee. The athletic fee is used to help pay for the cost of coaches, officials, and supplies. This fee is due by the first scheduled practice.

UNIFORMS: Team uniforms must be kept clean and in good repair. They should be worn only for games and special functions, such as pep rallies. Cheerleading skirt hemlines may be above the knee only if fingertip length shorts are worn underneath. If uniforms are damaged, lost, or not returned, it is the student's responsibility to pay for them at the end of the season. All coaches are to collect all uniforms at the last game of the season, whenever possible.

ELIGIBILITY POLICY

To participate in athletics, students must be in proper academic standings. Eligibility is reviewed at the quarter mid-term to maintain the academic integrity of each player. This also includes the 4th quarter, where a player found in violation of the academic requirements may not be permitted to begin any fall sport until academic reinstatement is satisfied.

Ineligibility goes into affect when the school office prints and posts the current ineligibility list. All students must sit out one game and one week of practice. At any time during the week the student is out, eligibility may be reinstated by showing acceptable grades on the reinstatement form that is signed by the faculty. If improvement does not occur during that week, the ineligibility may be extended until satisfactory academic progress occurs.

Grades are also provided to the coaching staff at the end of each marking period. The athletic director, coaches, and school administrator have the right to place athletes on academic ineligibility at this time, as well, if a student has not shown sufficient effort in their studies to stay eligible for athletics.

Note: Eligibility can be amended by the school administrator if the situation warrants.

WCS LOGO/COLORS: WCS athletic teams are called the "Warriors." The school colors are red and white, augmented with black.

ATTENDANCE: Coaches are responsible to set up a practice schedule and to maintain attendance records. Students are expected to attend all games and practices, unless excused by the coach or the administrator. Playing suspensions may be imposed for unexcused absences or misconduct. In addition, students must attend school for at least 3 ½ hours of the school day on the day of a game, scheduled practice, or activity in order to participate in that day's game, practice, or activity.

CONDUCT: Coaches are responsible to see that the athletes behave in a Christ-honoring way. Coaches may bench any athlete who displays actions or an attitude to the contrary. Any student on academic or behavioral probation is ineligible to participate in athletics during the probationary period

AWARDS: Students may earn athletic awards if they have made a significant contribution to their team's performance and testimony, as determined by their coach (in conjunction with the administration).

AWAY-GAMES DRESS CODE: Athletes traveling to away games should wear chapel-day attire, if not in uniform. Coaches are to dress neatly and modestly to all home and away games.

PRACTICES:

1. Changing areas will be assigned at the athletic director's discretion.
2. No cleats should be worn in the building.
3. Students should not be in the kitchen, main floor hallway, or foyer.
4. Student books and bags should be left in the locker rooms or on tables in the cafeteria. Absolutely no books or bags should be left in the bathrooms or hallways.

HOME GAMES: The athletic director will assign the visiting team(s) a changing room. Teams are considered under the supervision of their coaches prior to, during, and following the games.

AWAY GAMES: It is the team member's responsibility to let his/her parents know when to pick him/her up after home and away games. Please consult with your coach so that you know in advance when these pickup times are and then make sure that your parents are aware of these pickup times. Cooperation in this area will go a long way to help both coaches and fellow team members to not be unduly delayed after games. In route to games, scrimmages, and practices, drivers are strongly encouraged to play only Christian music.

EVENTS POLICY - ACTIVITIES, SPORTS, PRACTICES, ETC:

1. Students in grades 7-12 - For any school activity or sporting event starting after 4:00 p.m. all student spectators must go home and then return around the time of the game because there will be no adult supervision. Please note the school is not responsible to watch your children at the end of the school day. Teachers are not responsible for specific supervision after 2:45 P.M.
2. Students in grades K-5 cannot stay after school for a game unless they are under the supervision of a parent since they need more specific supervision. Teachers are not responsible for specific supervision after 2:45 P.M.
3. Parents are responsible for their students at games and other school-sponsored activities. The school does not provide supervision at these events.
4. Please make every effort to pick up your student at the scheduled times. While a few minutes margin is understandable, a half hour or an hour is not fair to school personnel. If excessive time violations continue, then those students will be asked to not attend practices until we have assurance from their home that appropriate arrangements for pick up have been made.
5. Younger students, whose practice ends before their older siblings' practice on a varsity team, must wait in the gym (or soccer field during soccer season) so that they are generally under supervision. This would be a very general supervision since the coach would be busy with the varsity players, but the students would be where there was an adult.