

Corpus Christi Athletic Handbook

The purpose of the Corpus Christi Athletic Program is to complement the home, church, and school in the development of the child as a “whole person”. Corpus Christi endorses the idea that all academic athletic eligibility areas are to focus on justice and fairness based upon individual performance in the areas of conduct, effort, and attendance. As such, academic athletic eligibility is not to be used as a punitive tool, but rather to constructively reinforce proper conduct and effort.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Participation
 1. Student-Athletes are expected to follow the drills and exercises as directed by their coaches
 2. If needed, Student-Athletes are encouraged to ask questions to better clearly understand each drill/exercise
 3. Student-Athletes are expected to attend all practices and games
2. Have a Positive Attitude
 1. Student-Athletes should lift everyone up in their words and actions
 2. If a problem arises, Student-Athletes should speak to a head coach directly
 3. Student-Athletes understand that playing time is earned, not necessarily equal
3. Academic/Behavior
 1. Must be meeting academic and behavior expectations in the classroom as deemed by their teacher(s) and the Academic Dean
 1. This includes, but is not limited to, having a “C” or above in each subject
 2. Must be showing respect to teacher(s), classmates, and parent volunteers
 3. The Academic Dean will notify the parent(s) a **warning** if a Student-Athlete is not meeting expectations in the classroom
 1. The Academic Dean has the authority to deem a Student-Athlete ineligible at any time

Rules:

1. Arrive dressed and ready by the time practice/game begins
2. Wait 24 hours before marking remarks or complaints to a head coach
3. Parents must volunteer for **at least 2** sporting events through the school year
4. Ask questions if needed
5. Communicate to the head coach if you cannot attend a practice or game
6. Set a good example
7. Be a leader

SPORTSMANSHIP: All student athletes are expected to represent themselves, their teammates, their coaches and their school with pride, respect and dignity. If, at any time a student athlete fails to show proper sportsmanship towards their coaches, teammates, opposing team members, officials or parents, the Athletic Department and School Administration will become involved to ensure that each individual situation is handled fairly and appropriately. Each situation that involves poor sportsmanship or lack of respect will be handled on a case-by-case basis. However, the following is a guideline on how situations will be handled:

- a. A coach will contact the Athletic Director and explain the situation.
 - b. A meeting will then be scheduled within one to two school days between the Coach, parent, player, Athletic Director and School Principal.
 - c. A decision will be made on the plan of action based on the severity of the situation. The plan of action can involve but may not be limited to:
 1. Sitting out a minimum of one practice and apologizing to everyone that was affected by the behavior.
 2. Sitting out more than one practice and a game.
 3. Being removed from the team all together.
2. **SPORTS PHYSICALS:** Corpus Christi requires each student athlete wishing to participate in a sport to have a sports physical on file at the school prior to the first practice with any team and dated no earlier than May of the prior school year. No student athlete will be allowed to practice until this form is on file – no exceptions.

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3. **ATTENDANCE:** Corpus Christi values the success of all student athletes in the classroom and on the playing field/court. The teachers, staff and coaches also value the importance of students to be in attendance each day at school. However, there are circumstances when the student does not attend school (i.e. illness, vacation, etc.) and during these instances, if a student athlete is absent from school for a full day or absent in the afternoon only, that student is not eligible to practice or play in a game that evening. However, if the student is absent in the morning but arrives to school by lunchtime, then he/she would be allowed to practice or play in that evening's competition. The exception to this would be if a student is on a school-sponsored field trip or if school is canceled.
4. **WEATHER:** If Corpus Christi cancels school due to bad weather or if classes are dismissed early, then all athletic practices for that evening are canceled. If there are scheduled athletic contests at home that night, then those games would also be canceled and rescheduled. If the game is scheduled at one of the GRACEAC schools in Grand Rapids, the opposing school would determine if the game/meet is canceled or not.
5. **JOINING A TEAM LATE:** A student will not be allowed to join an athletic team after the first week of practice. The coach in consultation with the Athletic Director may approve special exceptions. Some exceptions to this would be:
- a. If a student is out sick all week from school during the first week of practice.
 - b. If a student is on vacation when practice is scheduled during the first week of practice.
 - c. If a student transfers to Corpus Christi during the middle of the season. In this instance, the student would be required to practice for two full weeks prior to being eligible to play.

6. **MAJOR OFFENSES:** If a student athlete is found fighting, vandalizing school or personal property, cheating, in possession of illegal substances (cigarettes, alcohol, etc.) or is found to have reckless disregard for school policies, the school administration considers these major offenses that can lead to immediate ineligibility for a minimum of one week, a season, or to a maximum of one full school year.

Student Athlete Expectations

- All students must pass a valid sports physical and have this record on file in the school prior to their first team practice. (Free sports physicals are offered in the spring for the following academic school year.)
- Throughout your entire athletic season(s), all student athletes must maintain academic eligibility in order to participate in school athletics. Please refer to the above Athletic Eligibility Guidelines for clarification.
- If a student athlete is absent from school due to illness, vacation, etc., he or she will not be eligible to practice or play in a game that evening. However, if the student is absent in the morning but arrives to school by lunchtime, then he/she would be allowed to practice or play in that evening's competition. The exception to this would be if a student is on a school-sponsored field trip or if school is canceled. If a student athlete is absent from school on a Friday due to illness and their team has a game on Saturday or Sunday, it is up to the discretion of their parents as to whether or not he or she is healthy enough to play.
- Practices are important to develop teamwork and playing skills. All student athletes will receive a schedule for practices from their coach at the start of the season. As a member of the team, you should be on time to all practices and stay for the entire practice. If you are not able to make it to a practice, it is the responsibility of the student athlete to contact their coach prior to the start of practice.
- All student athletes will receive a game schedule from their coach, usually the week of their first game. All players are expected to be at every game. Student athletes should arrive 30 minutes before each scheduled game is to begin or whatever time your coach has requested for you to arrive. All players are important members of their team. If your parent is unable to transport you to a game, please contact the coach so other arrangements can be made for you to get to the game.
- All student athletes should treat equipment and school property with care.
- Every time a student athlete puts on their team uniform, they are not only representing themselves and their teammates, but also our school. You are expected to represent our school with pride, respect and dignity and to understand that sportsmanship is of utmost importance.
- All student athletes are expected to be courteous and respectful to their coaches, teammates, opposing players, parents and officials. Any inappropriate behavior or

sportsmanship will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Sportsmanship Guidelines for specific details regarding this.

- Above all else, have fun and learn from this great experience of playing on a school sponsored athletic team.

Parent Expectations

- Our athletic teams are supported solely from our Athletic Boosters. One way in which we pay for team entry fees, tournaments, uniforms, equipment, etc. are by hosting home games. Any parent that has a student participating on an athletic team is automatically a member of our Athletic Boosters. For home games that are held in the gym, we need parents to volunteer for set-up and clean up the gym, work at the concession stand and run the game clock and scoreboard. As an athletic booster parent, you are expected to help with any of these items at least **two times** throughout the academic school year. **This includes all student athlete parents even if their child does not participate on an athletic team that plays in the gym.**
- Your child must pass a valid sport physical and have this record on file in the school prior to their first team practice. (Free sports physicals are offered in the spring for the following academic school year.)
- Throughout your child's entire athletic season(s), he or she must maintain academic eligibility in order to participate in school athletics. Please refer to the Athletic Eligibility Guidelines for clarification.
- If your child is absent from school due to illness, vacation, etc., for a full day or absent in the afternoon only, he or she will not be eligible to practice or play in a game that evening. However, if the student is absent in the morning but arrives to school by lunchtime, then he/she would be allowed to practice or play in that evening's competition. The exception to this would be if a student is on a school-sponsored field trip or if school is canceled. If your child is absent from school on a Friday due to illness and their team has a game on Saturday or Sunday, it is up to the discretion of the parent as to whether or not the child is healthy enough to play.
- Practices are important to develop teamwork and playing skills. Your child will receive a schedule for practices from their coach at the start of the season. Your child should be on time to all practices and stay for the entire practice. If they are not able to make it to a practice, they should contact their coach prior to the start of practice.
- Your child will receive a game schedule from their coach, usually the week of their first game. All student athletes are expected to be at all games. They should arrive 15 minutes before each scheduled game is to begin or whatever time their coach has requested them to arrive. Your child is an important member of their team. If you are unable to transport them to a game, please contact the coach so other arrangements can be made for your child to get to the game.
- When your child puts on their team uniform, they are not only representing themselves and their teammates, but also our school. Please talk to your child about representing

our school with pride, respect and dignity and to understand that sportsmanship is of utmost importance.

- Your child's team will have a Team Parent. Some of the responsibilities of a Team Parent will be to help the coach with distributing practice and game schedules and any other communication that needs to be relayed to the parents/players. Along with this, Team Parents generally will decorate player lockers throughout the season. If a Team Parent should ask you for additional help, please do so.

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