

# WCA ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



*And let us run with  
perseverance the race marked out  
for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the  
pioneer and perfecter of faith.*

Hebrews 12:1b-2a

Last update July 25, 2022

## **WCA Athletic Handbook**

### **ATHLETICS – PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDELINES**

*WCA's athletic program offers students an opportunity to learn and grow as student athletes and positive Christian role models. We seek to glorify Christ, our Lord and Savior, as we develop teamwork and sportsmanship on every team, while promoting our school's core values of challenging the mind, preparing the heart and nurturing the soul.*

#### **Student Responsibilities**

WCA values academics over athletics; therefore, in order to participate in any school-sanctioned sport, student-athletes are required to maintain a grade of a C- or better in all core classes individually

Student-Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times – both on and off the field/court.

If a student-athlete is unable to attend school due to illness, he/she will not be permitted to participate in a practice or game later that evening.

It is important for those interested in playing sports to be fully committed to attending all practices and games (aside from illness, required school activities and family emergencies).

#### **Student Eligibility**

To participate in team sports, a student must be in grades fifth through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, unless otherwise specified. (For instance, in years past, fourth graders have been allowed to run cross country)

#### **Registration**

Each student-athlete will be required to pay a registration fee in order to participate on any WCA Athletic team. The registration fee per player will vary from sport-to-sport and year-to-year and will be used to cover the cost of uniforms, equipment, referees, awards, and other expenses.

#### **Uniforms**

All uniforms will be turned back in after the season has been completed. If a uniform is not turned in at the end of a season, that family is responsible to purchase a new uniform matching the existing teams.

#### **Parent Responsibilities**

Parents of players are asked to support the team by volunteering with ticket sales, clean up after games, scorekeeping, etc.

Players and parents are responsible for all rides to and from games/meets unless the school can arrange van/bus transportation.

## **General Information**

WCA is interested in offering as many sports as we can. However, in order to offer team sports at WCA, many things have to come together: players, coaches, adult supervision and facilities. Athletics are an extracurricular activity and are not guaranteed from year to year.

All sports require a minimum number of players to create a team. If the minimum number of players is not established, the sport will not be offered that season.

The athletic program will offer sports clinics from time to time to allow students additional skill development. These clinics will often be available to younger students as well as upper school.

## **Two-Sport Athletes**

An athlete may participate in two sports during the same season if he/she is academically eligible, the two sports are similar in training, study time is not affected, and both coaches agree. A two-sport athlete will attend both sports practices and contests as time allows.

## **Game or Practice Cancellation**

Scheduled games or practices may be canceled due to bad weather, poor field conditions, or other reasons. Parents will be notified through the school's communication system.

## **Focus on Missions**

Our athletic program is mission minded. Each team in our sports program will be involved in at least one ministry/mission activity during the season. Examples include making sandwiches for the homeless shelter, collecting toys at Christmas or making cards for homebound seniors.

## **WCA Athletics Website**

Updated information can be found on the WCA website under the athletics tab.

## Code of Conduct

All players and parents are to sign and then abide by the Athlete's Code of Conduct at the end of this document.

### Athlete's Code of Conduct

As a student athlete representing Weddington Christian Academy, you have a responsibility to act in a way that shows commitment to your team and to your school. This applies to your behavior on and off the court, and includes an attitude of humility, encouragement, respect and trust. You are ambassadors for WCA and for Christ. Walk in such a way that your faith is reflected in all you do and say.

By signing at the bottom, you agree to abide by these standards of behavior:

1. I will display hustle and good sportsmanship at every game and practice.
2. I will attend every practice and game that I can; however, I will notify my coach if I cannot attend a practice.
3. I will show my coaches respect by listening and learning from them. I will show respect to my teammates by encouragement, communication and helping each other get better.
4. I will treat my coaches, other players, officials and spectators with respect.
5. I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn, have fun and celebrate each other's successes.
6. I am a team player and will commit myself to the team, the sport, and a full season's participation. I will not complain about or criticize another teammate or doing anything else that brings the team down.
7. I will maintain above a C- average in all of my classes. If I fail to do so, I understand that I will not be able to participate in practice/game until cleared by teacher/coach and will work on assignment(s) during practice.

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*Please sign and return to school prior to the first day of practice*

I have read the statements of expected behavior and agree to follow these guidelines in order to represent our team and school with the class.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

