

ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL – GUIDELINES FOR OUR ATHLETIC PROGRAM

I. Goals and Attitudes

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Col. 3:17

II. Responsibilities

A. As Christians, players will want to attend church each Sunday.

1. Attendance at all worship services is required. Failure to attend will result in the participant being ineligible for competition the following weekend. Recognizing that team members have specific responsibilities, we must remember that our first responsibility is to our Lord and Savior.

Parents are encouraged to take the opportunity to attend church services regularly, thereby setting a proper example for their children. Regular church attendance is weekly church attendance. “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:25)

2. Any absence must be acknowledged by a specific, valid excuse from the parents, either by note or in person to the Athletic Director.

B. Volunteer Hours

1. Athletic volunteering parents or guardians whose children are involved in basketball and/or cheerleading are expected to volunteer at least two hours/games per season, per child involved, in our concession stand, monitoring the halls, running the scoreboard, keeping the book, cleaning up after games, or meeting tournament obligations. If the two hours during scheduled times are not worked, and a replacement is not found, a \$50 per child fee will be charged to your school account after the last home game.

C. Eligibility

1. The principal, teacher, and/or athletic director may disqualify any pupil from participating in extracurricular activities if the pupil is not performing scholastically to their God given abilities or if the pupil displays an unchristian-like attitude in or outside of the classroom.

D. Attendance

1. Required at all practices and games unless excused.

E. Excuses

1. A written excuse for practices and games should be given to the coach prior to the practice or games missed.

F. Absences

1. Absences must be excused through the coach.
2. Any player who has an unexcused absence for a practice, during the week of a game, will not be allowed to play for one scheduled game.
3. Any player who consistently misses practices or games and shows an uncooperative attitude cannot expect to be in good standing as a participating member of his/her team.
4. Any player who misses all practices during a week may play at the discretion of the coach.

G. Illness

1. Illness must be reported to the coach if it will affect the attendance at practice or at a game.
2. Inform the coaches of any physical limitations to player's performance.
3. Illness during an entire school day on which a game is scheduled disqualifies a student from playing in a game on that day. (This includes attending any scheduled practices.)
4. Friday illness preceding a Saturday game: Students will be allowed to play in the Saturday game if they bring an excuse in writing from their parents stating they have recovered sufficiently to play.

H. Respect is to be shown for all equipment – school, personal, and others.

I. Good safety habits are to be observed during practices and games.

J. Every effort must be taken to play together. The team is a unit. Persons causing dissension will be removed from the team.

K. Scheduling

1. Schedules should be arranged to accommodate the athletic program.
2. If scheduling conflicts develop, we must remember that from five to fifteen other persons must be considered.

L. Transportation – Players and cheerleaders are responsible for their own transportation to all athletic events.

III. Awards

- A. Awards will not be given to any player who does not complete the season or misses scheduled tournaments without justifiable reasons.
- B. A committee consisting of the principal, the athletic director, and the coach will jointly determine if the reasons are justifiable.

IV. Sportsmanship (conduct of players)

- A. Temper – Displays of temper will lead to immediate dismissal from the field of play.
- B. Language – Any foul or abusive language used by players will lead to dismissal from the team.
- C. Respect for coaches – Players should show a Christian and cooperative attitude when working with their coaches.
- D. Respect for officials – Officials' decisions are final. Any vocal criticism will result in dismissal from the game and, if continued, dismissal from the team will result.
- E. Respect for opposing players and coaches – They are to be respected as our own players and coaches. A Christian attitude must be shown.
- F. Respect for other facilities – We are their guest. Respect their property.

V. Conclusion

In all we do, a spirit of fair play and Christian sportsmanship must be evident. Let us do all to the glory of God.