

# St. Joseph School Athletic and Activity Policy July, 2017

## GENERAL POLICIES

The objective of the St. Joseph School Athletic and Activity Programs is to foster and encourage play that is skilled, sportsman like and challenging. Participants are to be taught to play hard and fair while trying to win. They are also to be taught to lose graciously and that striving to win is more important than winning itself.

St. Joseph School will field the following athletic teams: boys and girls basketball – grades 2-8; boys and girls volleyball – grades 3-8; cheerleading – grades 5-8; and boys and girls golf – grades 5-8. St. Joseph will also sponsor different extracurricular activities for the students of St. Joseph.

The Student Athlete shall be enrolled in St. Joseph School to participate on an Athletic team at the levels listed above, and willing to abide by the St. Joseph Athletic and Activity Association Policies and Codes of Conduct, signed by the Parent / Guardian and the Student Athlete prior to team division, will be entitled to placement on a team roster. [Codes of Conduct are presented in the St. Joseph School Athletic and Activity Association (SJS AAA) By-Laws.]. *“Active” membership is and shall be defined by St. Joseph.* Students who do not fit the aforementioned description, that is, SJS enrolled students, are not allowed to participate on SJS athletic teams.

There are no individual “playing time” limitations on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade competitive teams. Students will be given the option to play on a competitive team with the knowledge that this policy exists. A Student Athlete in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade may also choose to play on a non-competitive team on which playing time will be more controlled. This decision will be made by all participants in conjunction with their Parents / Guardians at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels prior to team division.

If a Student athlete has properly registered to participate in a sport and is unable to try-out due to illness or injury and if that child is expected to be able to play before the end of the season, the child will be placed on a team. At the time of team divisions and try-outs, the program director, the child’s coach from the previous season and the St. Joe’s Physical Education teacher will make a determination as to where the child will best fit and they will place the child on a team. This is to allow the child to attend practices and games and have the best chance for success when they return to good health. Injured players are expected to attend practices and games with their team at the discretion of their coach.

The number of participants on an athletic team will vary depending on league availability and the number of students wishing to play a given sport. The ideal number of participants on each team is nine (9) or ten (10).

A minimum of six (6) cheerleaders are necessary for St. Joseph School to sponsor a cheerleading squad.

In order to participate in an athletic practice or contest or an extracurricular activity on a school day or evening, the student must have attended a full day of classes, unless cleared by the office for extenuating circumstances.

St. Joseph School athletic events both practice and games, must take precedence over other sporting events or outside activities. Missing a practice or game for another team's practice or game is NOT an excused absence.

It is the responsibility of the Student, or their Parent / Guardian, to contact the coach or moderator prior to any athletic or extracurricular activity that will be missed because of illness or other unavoidable circumstance.

If a Student Athlete misses a practice or game without a justifiable excuse, playing time limitations will be in effect for the next game at the discretion of the coach. If a Student Athlete has two (2) unexcused absences from practices or games there may be a one (1) game suspension at the discretion of the coach. A subsequent unexcused absence may result in dismissal from the team.

If a Student Athlete attends practices and games on a regular basis, and practices or plays to their ability, the coaches will strive to provide equal playing time on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teams and the non-competitive 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams.

Student Athletes are expected to participate in practices and games in an acceptable manner. Taunting other players, fighting, use of profanity, display of unsportsmanlike behavior or repeated disruption of practice time will not be tolerated and could lead to dismissal from the team. All Student Athletes, Parents / Guardians and Coaches are required to sign and adhere to the appropriate Code of Conduct.

During tournaments at all levels, there will be no playing time limitations. All coaches will strive to provide some playing time for each team member.

A Student Athlete may not play on more than one (1) school sponsored team in the same sport at the same time.

In the event of an injury or medical condition that does not require absence from school, in order to remain on the team, it is necessary for the Student Athlete to attend all practices and games. This will allow the injured student to stay current with their teammates in regards to new plays that may be taught, maintain team camaraderie, etc.

Parents / Guardians must provide or arrange for transportation for their child to all practices and games.

In compliance with the Diocesan policy on extracurricular and religious activities, at least two (2) adults must be present at all athletic and extracurricular activities. The adults must be VIRTUS compliant and current with their certification. With the help of Parents / Guardians, coaches /

moderators will make every attempt to assure compliance with this policy. At the beginning of each season, in conjunction with SJS administration, the League Directors and the SJS AAA Vice-President are responsible for ensuring that all coaches are VIRTUS compliant.

A Student Athlete must be covered by insurance for any injury that may occur while participating in a St. Joseph School athletic event.

Grades for all students participating in extracurricular activities at St. Joseph School will be monitored while they are actively on a team or in a club. Grades are reviewed every week. If a student is failing two (2) or more subjects, the student is suspended from participation in any extracurricular event until the subject(s) grades(s) are passing. During this suspension period, students must attend practice in order to maintain their team/club membership. Additionally, at the discretion of the Parents / Guardians, the student may either attend games and sit with the team or determine that missing the game is in the student's best interest. This would be considered an excused absence if the coach is notified ahead of time. The student may not wear the team uniform at games during this suspension period.

If, at the next weekly grade check, the student is no longer failing two (2) subjects, the student will be fully reinstated.

Grades will be checked every week and reported to the applicable Program Director /Moderator as soon as possible. In this case, suspension continues until school is again in session. Suspensions imposed prior to Christmas break or Spring Break will not be reviewed again until school is in session.

St. Joseph School sports "seasons" will coincide with the Kentucky High School Athletic Association limitations of seasons.

If a Student Athlete loses all or part of their uniform he / she will be required to pay for that / those item(s). The cost of the item(s) will vary depending upon sport, size and age. The sport's Program Director, along with the Uniform Coordinator, will determine the replacement cost of the item(s).

When problems or disputes arise, all parties are required to follow the dispute and grievance procedures outlined in Article VIII in the SJS AAA By-Laws.

## **ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL AWARDS**

Each member of an athletic team at St. Joseph School will be presented with a plaque following the conclusion of their first season. Participation on additional athletic teams through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade will result in a plate with the inscription of the sport season completed.

Every athlete in grades 4-8 that participated on an athletic team is eligible for the Scholar Athlete Award that is presented to a female and a male at each grade level at the Academic awards Ceremony at the end of the school year. This award is presented to the Student Athlete with the highest grade average for the year.

Cavalier of the year Award - This award is awarded to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade male and female Student Athlete who best exemplifies a total Student Athlete. The coach of each eighth grade team may nominate a Student Athlete on their team who they feel is deserving of the nomination based on athletic ability, leadership, attitude, dedication and sportsmanship. Academic performance is also considered when selecting the recipient. Nominees are announced at the awards ceremony. The Cavalier of the Year Awards are presented at 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

St. Joseph School sponsors volleyball and basketball tournaments. Currently, there are girls' volleyball tournaments in the Fall for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. Girls' Basketball tournaments are held in December for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Boys' basketball tournaments are held in December/January for 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7/8 combo and 8.

Non-Competitive teams will play the regular season schedule; core tournaments (league & St. Joe's) plus up to two (2) additional tournaments. If there is a need for St. Joe's to have teams in any additional tournaments, the Program Director may place teams, with coaches' approval, in an additional tournament. This would be an exception to the rule and require approval by the SJS AAA Executive Committee. Any associated costs with entering additional tournaments would not be paid by the SJS AAA.

Competitive teams will play the regular season schedule; core tournaments (league, Diocesan & St. Joe's) plus up to five (5) additional tournaments. Any requests for a competitive team to participate in more than core +5 tournaments will need SJS AAA Executive Committee approval. Any associated costs with entering additional tournaments would not be paid by the SJS AAA.

## **GYM UTILIZATION**

Only Leagues, Teams or Clubs sponsored or sanctioned by St. Joseph School or St. Joseph Parish will be permitted to utilize the St. Joseph School gymnasium. Exception requests will be considered by the SJS AAA Executive Committee. The purpose behind any exception request must be to enable more children from St. Joseph Parish to utilize the gymnasium. In order for an exception request to be considered, the requesting team must be coached by a St. Joseph parishioner, be comprised of a majority of St. Joseph parishioners and be in compliance with all VIRTUS requirements.

## **BANNERS**

Only eighth grade competitive teams that win both their League and Tournament will have the opportunity to place a banner in the school gym.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The SJS AAA Athletic Policy shall be regularly reviewed and maintained by the SJS AAA President-Elect. He / she shall review, maintain and revise, when necessary, the SJS Athletic Policy.

The SJS AAA Athletic Policy may be amended by a majority vote of the SJS AAA Executive Committee. The Athletic Policy may only be amended at an Executive Committee or Special Meeting and only after written notice of the proposed change(s) has been given to the Principal and President thirty (30) days prior to the vote thereon. Any amendment to the Athletic Policy will be presented and read at two (2) Executive Committee or Special Meeting(s). At the second reading, a vote will be taken.

Upon approval and / or Amendment, the SJS AAA Athletic Policy shall be posted to the SJS AAA Website.

### **ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEES**

Fees for participation in all Athletics will be determined annually by the SJS Executive Committee and included as an addendum to the Athletic Policy.

## ADDENDUM

### Athletic Participation fees for 2017 – 2018 school year

<b>Basketball</b>	
Girls	\$65
Boys	\$65
<b>Volleyball</b>	
Girls	\$70 (Knee Pads Not Provided)
Boys	\$40 (Knee Pads Not Provided)
<b>Golf</b>	
Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Golfers Pay Green Fees as they Play</li><li>• Golfers Buy their Own Shirt/Shorts/Pants</li></ul>
Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Golfers Pay Green Fees as they Play</li><li>• Golfers Buy their Own Shirt/Shorts/Pants</li></ul>