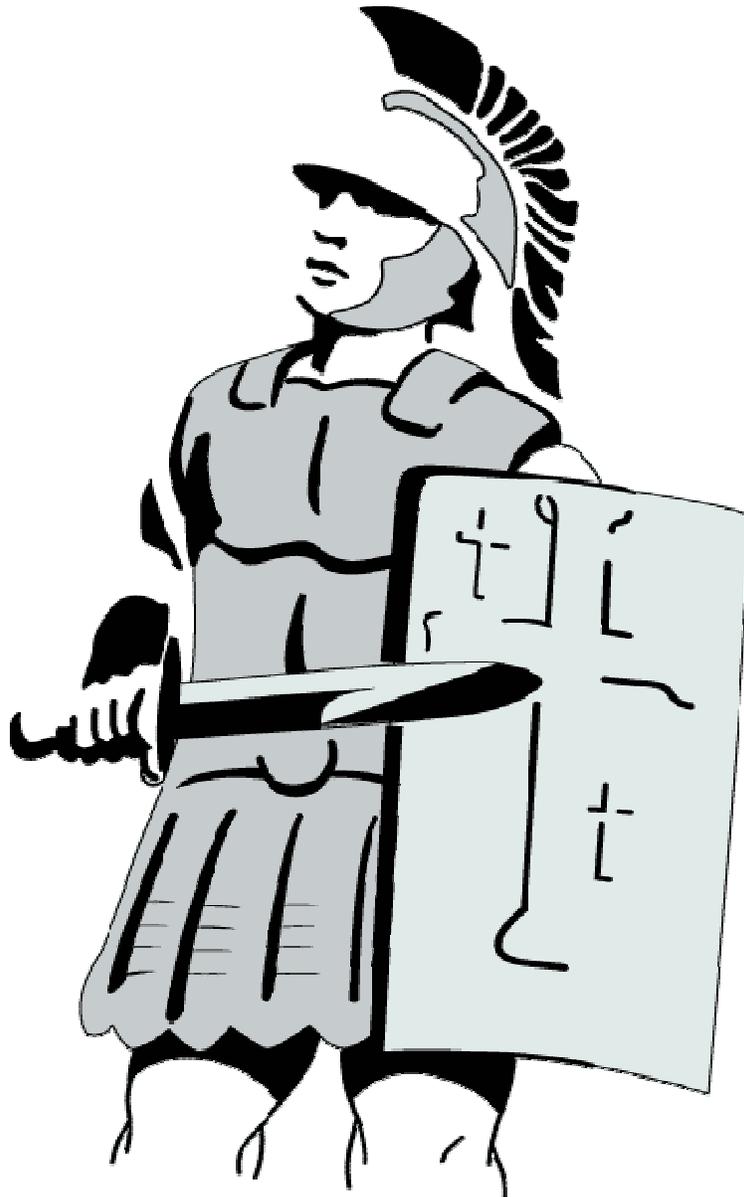


Peace Lutheran School

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Mission of Athletics

As an extension of our school's mission, we provide an athletic program at Peace as an opportunity for our students to use their God-given talents in order to give glory to God. Paul explains this to us in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Philosophy of Athletics

All activities at Peace Lutheran School are Christ-centered. Athletics is no different. Our philosophy of athletics is based on Colossians 3:17, "And 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."

Our lives as sanctified children of God are lived in continuous service to our Lord. Our spiritual, physical, social, emotional, and academic growth is all intertwined. Therefore, through Peace athletic programs, we strive to better equip the children for service to their Lord by enriching their spiritual, physical, social, emotional, and academic growth.

Peace Lutheran School has an athletic program to give glory to God. This program acts as an extension of the physical education program. Athletics is certainly not a core requirement, but can enrich a student's experiences.

Peace Lutheran School will offer both A and B level sports in accordance with the number of students required to fill the teams. On the B level, student athletes will be introduced to beginning and intermediate skills. Equal playing time is not guaranteed, but all student athletes will get playing time in most games. On the A level, the goal is to put our best team on the floor, but still seek to give all student athletes meaningful playing time. This may not always happen in closely contested games. The following are guidelines that our coaches will strive to meet.

- B Team 6th graders play half of the match/game
- B Team 5th graders play a quarter of the match/game
- A Team 8th graders play half of the match/game
- A Team 7th graders play a quarter of the match/game
- 6th and 8th grade students who did not play the previous year, can be considered a grade below for playing time purposes.

Coaches are given the right to make decisions on which student athletes' play. The coaches' decisions are mostly based on what they see in practice and in the game as well as the skills and attitude the student athletes have previously developed over the years. The coaches will try to follow the guidelines stated previously in our philosophy. Please realize that the size of the team may also effect the amount of playing time available.

Another goal for our athletic program is to prepare the student athletes for the next level. B team student athletes are prepared for A team, while A team student athletes are prepared for high school. Throughout this program we also strive to make athletics an enjoyable time filled with commeratory and hard work.

Objectives of Athletics

- The student athletes will grow spiritually by have an opportunity to give to glory to God on and off the court by showing their fruits of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:23)
- The student athletes will grow physically by engaging in skills needed for each specific sport.
- The student athletes will grow academically by enhancing their knowledge of the rules and strategies used in the sport.
- The student athletes will grow socially by learning the team concept and the joy of attaining goals together, whether through winning or losing.
- The student athletes will grow emotionally, striving to meet their potential while being taught by the coaches. The coaches will emphasize competitiveness, sportsmanship, and respect to all.

Communication

Communication is key in the world of sports just like it is to the world at large. When disagreements occur, we look to Jesus' words in Matthew 18:15. "If a brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you." In order to do things in a God-pleasing way, the following guidelines are to be followed:

1. Any concerns by a parent or parents regarding coaching philosophy and expectations need to be expressed to the coach during a **private** and **scheduled** time. After or during the sport's event is **not** an appropriate time to raise concerns.
2. Appropriate concerns and topics for discussion would be the treatment of your child mentally and physically as well as ways to improve your child's skills.
3. Any special concerns or circumstances that require addition assistance should be expressed to the athletic director and/or principal

Badgerland Lutheran Athletic Conference

Starting in the fall of 2008, Peace Lutheran School will participate in the Badgerland Lutheran Athletic Conference known as the BLAC. This conference will be divided into two divisions. The divisions will be based on geographical location as well as school enrollment. The following sports will be offered; however, Peace Lutheran School will have sports teams based on the numbers of student athletes will to participate:

- Fall boys' and girls' cross country and girls' volleyball
- Winter boys' and girls' basketball
- Spring boys' and girls' softball and track and field

We will also adopt the BLAC sportsmanship motto which states, "The Badgerland Lutheran Athletic Conference welcomes you to our school. We ask that all participants and spectators conduct themselves in a God-pleasing manner before, during, and after all athletic events. Cheer in a positive way, show respect to opponents and officials, practice good Christian fellowship and have fun."

Expectation of Parents

Parents are expected to set a positive Christian example for their children, fellow Christians, and the visitors. This will follow the philosophy based on Colossians 3:17, "... do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Parents are also expected to gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest as well as acknowledge the officials as authoritative figures that they are human and may make mistakes. Parent(s) with child(ren) who will participate in athletics are **required** to sign off on this handbook. This means they have read and understood the policies and expectations in this handbook.

Parents are expected to attend the **mandatory** meeting for that specific sport. In this meeting parents will meet the coaches will discuss and distribute calendars and other necessary information to allows the season to run as smoothly as possible. If you do not attend the preseason meeting, you must schedule a meeting with the athletic director before your child may participate in formal event like a game, race, match, or meet.

Parents are expected to take ownership in Peace Lutheran School's athletics by volunteering for various events. Because each sport is different, the specifics cannot be outlines in this handbook. However, examples of these activities may include line judging, concessions, ticket taking, etc.

Parent(s) are also responsible for transportation to and from all evening and weekend athletic contests in which their child is participating to support their child and the rest of the team. When the parent(s) send their child home with another family, the parent(s) also put the responsibility of the transportation as well as behavior for that child on the other family.

Expectation of Spectators

The behavior of Peace spectators would be one based off of Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Peace spectators are the ambassadors of Peace Lutheran School to sporting events. As ambassadors, we would ask that the spectators act only in a positive Christian manner showing courtesy and support to student athletes, coaches, officials, and other spectators.

Expectation of Student Athletes

“Let your light shine before men so that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16) This passage tells anyone watching the sporting event should be able to tell these players are young Christian athletes.

When joining a team, the student athlete makes a commitment to which they are expected to follow through. Specific expectations include but are not limited to:

- Attending mandatory attendance at practice, team meetings, and games unless there is a case of illness, family emergency, or previously excused by coaches.
- Conducting themselves at practice in a manner so that all can learn.
- Displaying Christ-centered respect and sportsmanship at all time to all student athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.
- Maintaining an academic level to set standards. This academic level states the student must be at or above a C average in classes and may not have any F's on a mid-term or quarter report card. This academic level also states that the student must stay current on his or her homework. Three violation in the span of one school week will result in a one game suspension and a game suspension for every that occurs above three in that week.
- Respecting all property when playing at home or at the opposing team's facility.
- Reporting all injuries to the coach of their sport, whether the injury was incurred at practice, in a game, or elsewhere.
- Demonstrating enthusiasm, team spirit, and support to coaches and teammates.
- Student athletes are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities outside of the team practices to develop their skills: summer camps, working with parents, open gyms, etc.
- Student athletes are responsible for their individual uniforms. All uniforms will be handed out and collected by the coaches or athletic director. Each uniform is to be washed in cold water. PLEASE do not put uniforms into a dryer, let them just air-dry. If a student athlete loses or damaged a uniform, he/she will be required to pay for the lost or damaged uniforms. Extra uniforms are not taken to games, so if a student athlete forgets a uniform, he/she may not be able to play.
- Student athletes may also be expected to dress appropriately for sporting contest days. The decision for dressing up is completely dependant upon the coaches' decision for that specific sport.
- Student athletes are required to attend the meeting for all who plan to participate in athletics.
- Student athletes are required to attend a **full day** of school in order to participate in the sporting event held later that evening. If the student athlete does not attend school, he/she will not participate except under special approved circumstances.
- Student athletes are strongly encouraged to attend a church service on the Sunday of a tournament. If the student athlete does not attend church, he/she will not participate.

Expectation of Coaches and Assistant Coaches

Coaches, whether a lay person or a called worker, are to follow the example of our Lord as described in Isaiah 40:11, “He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; gently leads those that have young.”

Coaches should love as Jesus loved us. Teaching skills, rules, fundamentals, strategies, and evaluation techniques should be taught while Jesus’ love is also modeled. The coach must understand that they are responsible for their behavior at all times and their conduct reflects on our school and on our Savior. Coaches should be a spiritual leader by encouraging prayer with the student athletes before each athletic contest.

Coaches should have a general knowledge of the sport they are assigned to coach. At Peace Lutheran School coaches are to develop and encourage student athletes at all levels.

Coaches need to show organizational skills, a willingness to improve as coaches, and a commitment for teaching the skills of that specific sport. The coaches must understand that they are responsible for their behavior at all time both on and off the playing field.

Coaches are responsible for the care and discipline of the student athletes during the practices and sporting events. At the end of practice and game activities the parent(s) will assume responsibility for the post-game care and discipline of their child(ren).

Parent(s)/Student Consent Form

You will be receiving with this handbook a consent form that needs to be signed and returned before your child can participate in the **first** practice. This form indicates that both parent(s) and child have read this handbook and are willing to follow the guidelines that have been established.

MAPS

All maps are available on the church and school website. Click on the school, athletics, BLAC link, and then maps.

Peace Lutheran School Athletic Handbook Consent Form

I, _____, and my parent(s)
_____, have thoroughly
read the Peace Lutheran Athletic Handbook. We agree to conform to the guidelines and procedures
set out in this book. I and my parent(s) have asked questions or raised any concerns to the athletic
director or principal regarding any of the information set forth in this handbook. I and my parent(s)
also agree to support and honor my coach(es) as authority figures placed before me to instruct and
guide me in the strategies, rules, and sportsmanship of the chosen game.

Students Signature

Students Signature

Students Signature

Parent's Signature

Parent's Signature

_____-_____-_____
Today's Date