

IMPORTANT PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AT ST. PAUL'S

Legal issues

- A. Each Athlete **MUST** have a birth certificate and a completed physical on file in the office before he may participate in any school-sponsored sport. Forms are available at the school. 9th, JV, and Varsity athletes must complete all LHSAA forms to be eligible to practice or participate.
- B. **INJURIES** – we have a secondary insurance policy. To file a claim, our procedure is as follows: The head coach or the trainer must be made aware of the athlete's trip to the doctor. The Trainer files a form with our business office detailing the injury. The Parents are sent 1 claim form from our business office. Copies should be made for any bills incurred. If a claim form is **NOT** received within 10 days, please contact the Coach, Trainer, or Athletic Director immediately. *OUR INSURANCE WILL NOT COVER CLAIMS MADE MORE THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE VISIT TO THE PHYSICIAN.*
- C. **QUITTING THE TEAM** – A coach must be properly notified by the athlete that he no longer wishes to participate. This means a face-to-face meeting to respectfully resign. If this occurs after the final roster is determined, the athlete is ineligible to participate or train for any other SPS sport until the current season ends.
- D. **SPEAKING TO THE COACH/A.D.** – For a serious discussion, please consider the time and location of a meeting with a coach. It is best to make an appointment to meet in a private office. Please avoid just prior and just after practices or games to speak to a coach, though they may be convenient. These are usually times of distraction and emotion. Please speak with the coach before speaking with the A.D. about a problem. Coaches will discuss your son and how he can improve. Other subjects, such as the amount of playing time, coaching strategies, and comparisons to other student – athletes are usually considered out of bounds.
- E. **TRAINING POLICY** - This is found in the Student Handbook – A student will be suspended for up to 2 games by the A.D. for a violation of alcohol or tobacco at anytime during his official season (this includes pre-season training and off-campus activities). His suspension is considered unexcused by the coach. The coach is not required to return him immediately to his pre-suspension status. The athlete must “earn” his spot back. The A.D. determines what is a considered violation. A second offense *ANYTIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR* will now result in dismissal from the team. Any offense of illegal substances can result in dismissal from the team.
- F. **Academic/Athletic conflicts** – There is no conflict – Academics first. However, student-athletes must be able to keep up academically **AND** practice. Missed practices or games for homework, study and/or projects are considered **unexcused**. Practices do take place during exam week. Non-district, JV, and Jr. High games should not take place during exam week.
- G. **STUDENT-ATHLETE ATTENDANCE POLICY** - LHSAA eligibility rules require a student to be in school by lunch in order to play or practice in the afternoon (2 periods). Friday attendance is required to participate in a weekend game or meet. *IF A STUDENT LEAVES SCHOOL HE IS CONSIDERED INELIGIBLE FOR THAT DAY'S PRACTICE OR MEET UNLESS APPROVED*

BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS. Any absence from school, such as coming in late – CAN result in the student-athlete being declared ineligible for that day’s practice or contest. The Dean of Students or Athletic Director (in the Dean’s absence) will determine whether missing school is excused or unexcused. *MAKE SURE THE SCHOOL IS NOTIFIED ABOUT ANY ABSENCE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY!*

- H. LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY FOR AN ATHLETIC EVENT – LHSAA rules state that a student who has a failing grade in a particular class may NOT leave that class early to attend an athletic event. In addition, our school policy states that a teacher who believes a student’s attendance is imperative has the right to prevent that student from leaving class early (in consultation with the Head Coach, Athletic Director and/or Academic Vice-Principal).
- I. WEEKNIGHT GAMES – Students are required to be in school on time for class after a night game on a weekday. No exceptions. All homework is due on time. A late game or practice is NOT an excuse to be without homework.
- J. THE ROLE OF FANS/PARENTS – We encourage and need our parents to be our most fervent supporters. We wish them to stay positive in that role – as supporters of student – athletes. This promotes the positive atmosphere we seek in our athletic endeavors. We do not consider it proper to publicly criticize players, coaches, or referees.

The changing role of individual sport boosters (budget) - Individual boosters and clubs are important to help defray the increasing cost of athletics. The head coach is the official head of each booster club. He must approve ALL fund-raisers before they are publicized or kicked off. Please help us to keep this from becoming a problem. Money or other items given to a program should be given with the approval of the Head Coach or Athletic Director. Any volunteer work should also have the approval of the Head Coach or Athletic Director BEFORE it is performed.

LHSAA eligibility rules – private schools – 8-9th graders may play Jr. High ball, but only students who have been here 1 calendar year or freshmen and up whom live in Covington high’s public school district may participate in JV or Varsity sports their 1st year at SPS.

The coaches will determine whether or not athletes are on the 9th, JV, or Varsity. It is possible, but unusual; to be on all 3 – Please communicate with the coach if that becomes a problem with academics.

Conflicting seasons – Coaches work hard to make exceptions for the fewer and fewer multi-sport athletes we have at school. We will continue to make it possible for athletes to participate in more than one sport. If there are any issues, please speak to a coach or the athletic director directly. We have 3 basic seasons, and most athletes can only do one sport per season. Many do only 1 or 2 the entire school year. Pre-season training is designed for those athletes NOT in another sport.

Conflicting seasons II – club or rec teams are considered in a different category than SPS teams. We will not make exceptions for a club or a rec team as a general rule. We want to see an athlete perform for St. Paul’s regardless of the sport, not perform the sport, regardless of the team.