

BCA



ATHLETICS

***Middle School Athletic
Handbook***

***“...that in all things, Christ might be pre-eminent.”
Colossians 1:17***

Revised: 9/1/17

Forward

The purpose of this handbook is to aid student athletes and their parents in understanding policies and procedures that guide the operation of BCA's athletic program.

Being a member of a BCA athletic team is an honor and a privilege and carries with it responsibilities that must be maintained as the athlete represents Barrington Christian Academy.

Philosophy Statement

God has given each person gifts. The interscholastic athletic program at BCA strives to provide opportunities, through which each student who participates may be able to discover, develop and use his/her gifts to glorify God in a personal and practical way.

The athletic program is an integral part of the total curriculum. It is designed to provide meaningful opportunities that challenge the growth and use of each gift. Practices, games, and interpersonal relationships encourage the use and development of each student's gifts.

Goals and Objectives

- To develop each individual's physical, mental, social and spiritual abilities as they relate to sports
- To promote team unity, individuals working together to accomplish and achieve common goals
- To develop life-skills of cooperation, good sportsmanship and an understanding of fair-play
- To develop the individual's ability to contribute to the success of the group
- To demonstrate Christ-honoring behavior and attitudes in a variety of circumstances, displaying courtesy and respect to officials, spectators and visiting teams
- To accomplish individual, student-ability-oriented goals
- To have fun!

Eligibility Requirements for Participation

Physical Examination: The “Medical Release for After School Sports” form must be completed by a physician and submitted to the school office prior to participation. This physical covers sports for the entire school year. **Students must also read the Concussion Pamphlet and sign the ‘School & Youth Programs Concussion Act – Title 16-90-1.**

Parental Permission/Acknowledgement Form and Emergency Information Form: Parents are to sign and return a “parental permission/acknowledgement” form and “emergency information” form for *each sport*, thereby giving permission for their child to participate in the after-school sport. It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the school if the insurance information on the “emergency information” form changes. The athlete will also sign the acknowledgement form. The coach will hand out these forms at the beginning of the season. The permission form will be kept on file in the athletic director’s office and the coach keeps the emergency information form.

Sports Fee: The sports fee for basketball and soccer has been discontinued. For students who are invited to compete at the ACSI Track Meet in Bangor, PA, there is a fee to participate.

ACADEMIC PROBATION: A student in grades 6 through 12 will be put on academic probation if he/she indicates a need for close supervision of his/her academic work, as evidenced by the following grades on a quarterly or interim progress report:

1. a GRADE BELOW 70 in two subjects
2. a FAILING GRADE in any class

During the probationary period, the student will be required to take advantage of after-school help sessions and may be restricted from participation in interscholastic sports and other extracurricular activities until acceptable progress has been achieved. Specific details of each student’s probation requirements will be communicated to the student and his/her parents by the administration.

Eligibility for Practice or Games

1. To practice or participate in an athletic contest, students must be in attendance at school **for the entire day of the scheduled practice or contest**, unless excused by the Director of Athletics.
2. Any student excused from physical education class due to a medical reason (including a parent or nurse’s note) may not participate in after school sports for the dates corresponding with those on the note.
3. Students may become ineligible if their conduct in the classroom is unsatisfactory or if non-sportsmanlike conduct is demonstrated at practice, in the locker room, or on the playing field.
4. Students may not participate in contests unless they have the entire team uniform.

Middle School Athletic Code of Conduct

(To be cited at the start of every middle school athletic event)

Players shall at all times represent themselves and their school with honor, proper conduct, and good sportsmanship. Players will comply fully with the rulings of the officials and in no way demonstrate dissatisfaction with the decisions made. Players pledge to be gracious in victory and defeat.

Policy for Inhaler Use at After School Activities

Any middle school student that is participating in after school sports will be responsible to **self-carry** his/her own inhaler. If the student already has an inhaler in school this is to remain at the school to be used during regular school hours. **An inhaler from home must be brought specifically for after-school sports.**

If there is a **home or away game**, the student must bring in his/her inhaler from home and bring it with him/her to the event. It will be the parent's/child's responsibility to remember to do this on game days.

For **after-school practices**, a student may go to the office prior to dismissal and use his/her inhaler before going to practice. After 3:00 pm all medications are secured in a locked cabinet and are unavailable.

Your child's health and safety is the primary concern. If your child needs an inhaler, we do not want them in a crisis situation so compliance with this policy is imperative.

Please review this policy with your child. Discourage the sharing of inhalers with friends, as this can be dangerous if the medication is unknowingly different. Also sharing saliva encourages the spread of respiratory illnesses.

For students who have activity induce asthma, it is best that they use their inhaler 30 minutes prior to exercise. Please review this with your child so he/she can better manage his/her asthma, and get optimal effects of the medication used.

Expectations and Responsibilities of Athlete

- **Attendance:** Students will fulfill the attendance requirements set up by the coach. Students are expected to attend all games for which they are scheduled to either play or serve.
- **Effort:** Students are expected to give 100% effort mentally, physically and spiritually. This includes learning the rules of the game, developing the level of skill and conditioning necessary for play that is safe to self, teammates and others, and glorifying God in all actions.
- **Conduct:** Students agree to abide by the rules of conduct set forth in the Parent-Student Handbook. Students are expected to demonstrate behavior that incorporates Christ-honoring respect for others, integrity and good sportsmanship. This includes but is not limited to showing respect for coaches and officials (even if you disagree with their judgment), refraining from bad-mouthing opponents or teammates, winning with humility and losing with grace. If disciplined, the athlete will respectfully allow the consequences of his/her actions to be carried out.
- **Locker Rooms:** Athletes should leave all clothing and bags in the locker rooms during practices and games. All cleats must be put on and taken off outside of Cedar Hall. Rough-housing or throwing of objects is not allowed in the locker rooms.
- **Uniforms:** Students are expected to wear the entire uniform in the proper manner when participating in a scheduled contest. Each athlete will be issued a BCA-owned team shirt for use during the sport season. Athletes are responsible for proper care of their uniforms. Shirts are to be worn for contests only. Athletes are expected to return the issued shirt (or uniform) in good condition to the BCA athletic office within one week of the season's end. Athletes may not participate in another sport until this obligation has been fulfilled. Soccer and the track and field teams are to wear black BCA shorts. Soccer players should also wear BLACK socks. It is the responsibility of the athlete to purchase the appropriate clothing to complete the uniform.

It is expected that athletes will attend all scheduled practices and games.

Percentage of participation is determined by attendance.

I. Excused absences that *do not* affect the overall % of participation.

The coach will receive notification from the school office only.

- A. Absence from school
- B. Leaving school due to illness before 2:00pm
- C. Doctor's medical note due to illness or injury

II. Excused absences that affect the overall % of participation.

In all cases the coach must be notified by the athlete or parent prior to practice.

- A. Doctor or dentist appointment
- B. Extra-help with a teacher
- C. Pre-approved absence (coach's discretion)

III. Unexcused absences with consequences in game play.

All unexcused absences affect the overall % of participation.

- A. Arriving late or leaving early will contribute to an unexcused absence if not for any of the above reasons. The amount of time missed accumulates until equal to one full practice. It then counts as an unexcused absence. This includes being late due to detention.
- B. 1st unexcused missed practice or game:
Player must sit out of the entire first half of his/her next scheduled game
- C. 2nd unexcused missed practice or game:
Player must sit out his/her entire game next scheduled to play
- D. 3rd unexcused missed practice or game:
Coach has the discretion to suspend the player for longer or permanently.
- E. 4th unexcused missed practice or game: will result in the player suspension for the season.

Athletic awards are given out at the annual sports banquet held early in June.

Athletes, team managers and statistic keepers are recognized for their effort, commitment and success in each season and throughout the school year.

Certificate of Participation:

This award is given to all athletes, team managers and statistic keepers who have participated in 75% of all practices and scheduled games. The athlete has demonstrated effort and good sportsmanship representative of athletic goals.

Sport Pin:

This award is specific per sport. This award is given to all athletes who meet the qualifications of the participation certificate, and have played at the varsity level (A-level) for at least 75% of the season's competition.

BCA Letter:

This is a "school letter," not a "sport letter" that can be earned by all athletes, team managers and statistic keepers. It can be earned annually. Students must participate in at least two seasons of sports to be eligible.

A letter can be earned by any student who:

1. receives two sport pins.
2. receives three participation certificates.

Individual Awards

Individual recognition is given to selected athletes at the annual sports banquet. Athletes may be from any middle school grade level.

Most Improved Player

One award is given in *each sports season* to the player who makes dramatic improvement in skills, team play and/or confidence. The improvement can be from either:

- (a) one year to the next or
- (b) from the beginning of the season to the end.

Outstanding Team Player Award

One award is given to the varsity (A level) player recognized for his/her athletic excellence and consistent display of actions and words contributing to team unity, sportsmanship and success during the *Soccer* and *Basketball* seasons. This award also recognizes the player's contribution to the development and encouragement of all individuals on the team through supportive words and actions.

Outstanding Athlete Award

One award is given to the male athlete and the female athlete in *Track and Field* who has accumulated the most points for the team and displayed good sportsmanship and support for the team's effort.

Christian Character Award

This is the highest award given in BCA team activities. It is given *all three seasons* to the one player in each sport who consistently goes out of his/her way to encourage teammates, respect the coach and carry out good sportsmanship to teammates, opponents, referees and coaches. He/she has demonstrated willingness to spend time on the bench so someone else can have playing time. He/she willingly offers prayer before games and practices.