

St. Peter's R.C. School
Athletic Program
Purpose, Philosophy and Guidelines

This handbook is a resource to educate parents/guardians, student athletes, coaches, faculty and administration regarding the purpose, philosophy and guidelines of the athletic program at St. Peter's R.C. School.

Participating in athletics, must be regarded as an important piece of student life, and should be utilized as an educational tool to nurture a student's confidence, physical and emotional well being. Further goals of the athletic program include maximizing the number of students participating and teaching the ideals of fair play, sportsmanship and Christian attitude.

Athletic program offers

Fall/Winter

Baseball	6,7,8 grade Boys
Swimming	K-8 grade co-ed
Basketball	K-2 grade Instructional co-ed 3-4 grade Boys Instructional 3-4 grade Girls Instructional 5-6 grade Junior Varsity Boys, League Play 5-6 grade Junior Varsity Girls, League Play 7-8 grade Varsity Boys, League Play 7-8 grade Varsity Girls, League Play
Cheerleading	2, 3-4 grade "Peppers" 5-6 grade Girls Junior Varsity 6-7 grade Girls Varsity

Spring/Summer

Softball	6, 7, 8 Girls, League Play
Soccer	K Instructional 1-2 grade co-ed League Play 3-4 grade co-ed League Play 5-6 grade co-ed League Play 7-8 grade co-ed League Play

Sports Director (SD)

The Sports Director (SD) shall be appointed by the principal and or pastor.

The SD shall serve a one (1) year term, beginning July 1st and ending June 30th. There is no limit to the number of one (1) year terms the SD can serve. He/ she must however, be approved for each term by the principal and or pastor. The SD shall have but is not limited to the following responsibilities:

- Collect record and **deposit** all sports fees.
- Approve, with a signature, all expenditures including league fees, equipment and uniform purchases.
- Secure and provide the school office with rosters of all teams, and coaches.
- Attend monthly HSA meetings.
- Fill all coaching positions keeping with the philosophy of the athletic program.
- Hold at least two (2) coaches meetings per academic year.
- Be a liaison between parents/guardians/administration and coaches.
- Plan the annual sports award ceremony.
- Support student eligibility requirements.

Student Eligibility

Any student in good academic, disciplinary and administrative (sports fee paid, sports physical completed) standing, and has the permission of his/her parent or guardian, is eligible to participate in the athletic program. *(Good academic and disciplinary standing will be presented under the student athlete responsibility section of this handbook.)*

Coaching

Coaching children today is an awesome responsibility. Children see coaches as role models. Coaches are expected to monitor their own behavior, especially when students are present. Coaches and assistants **should** be at least 21 years of age. Each team should have an assistant coach. Coaching is a privilege, not a right. Coaches, who are currently coaching a specific team, will have the right of first refusal for the same team the following season. If they do not intend to return, they must notify the SD in a timely manner. If a coaching position is vacant; the SD has the responsibility of filling this vacancy. The SD can consult with the principal, pastor and anyone else he/she feels will assist in making the best decision for the team and the school. The principal and or pastor will have the **final** decision in awarding a coaching position. All coaches, new and returning, must provide a letter of intent and be approved by the principal and or pastor each season.

Coaches are expected to:

- Complete and remain current with the Diocesan “Virtus” training and any other training required by the Dioceses or school administration.
- Have a good knowledge of the sport they want to coach.
- Teach, enforce and exemplify the philosophies and guidelines of the athletic program.
- Give **all** team members a fair amount of playing time.
- Instill and exemplify the ideals of good sportsmanship.

Coaches Code Of Ethics

I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and teach these rules to my players.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will treat each player as an individual and understand each player have different physical and emotional abilities.

Be the kind of coach I would want my sons a daughters to play for.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to my players.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach and that the game is for children and not adults.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

To recognize the commitment made by your child to participate.

To recognize the commitment of the coaches who volunteer.

Be sure that your child attends all required practices and events, and notify a coach if your child can not make a practice or game.

To pay all sports fees, provide requested medical information (Physical examinations) and return all equipment to the coach at the end of the team's season.

Provide or arrange for transportation to and from all practices and events.

Support student eligibility requirements.

Parents' Code Of Ethics

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, parents, coaches and officials.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of all the children ahead of a personal desire to win

I will demand a sports environment that is free of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will support the coaches responsibility and decision to play all athletes a fair amount at each event.

I will remember that the game is for youths, not adults.

I will adhere to the following rules at any sports event attended:

- Respect the judgment of the officials.**
- Respect the judgment of the coaches**
- Show respect for any injured player.**
- Abstain from profane language and obnoxious behavior.**
- Demonstrate sportsmanship.**
- Avoid confrontation with parents of the other team.**

Student Athletes Responsibilities

I understand that participating in sports is a privilege not a right.

I must attend all required practices and games. If I can't attend I will notify my coach.

I will practice good sportsmanship and school spirit at all times.

I will return any sports equipment to my coach at the end each season.

I understand that if I am absent from school on the day of a game, I can not participate in the game on that day, except with permission of the principal.

If I participate in two sports at the same time, I understand I may forfeit the right to play in a game if I miss a required practice or game.

I understand that my studies are the real priority. If I am failing a main subject, I will be placed on "academic warning" as determined by the school principal. I will not be able to participate in athletics until the next

mid-term (5-week) or 10 week marking period at which time a passing average must be obtained. If I am failing two (2) main subjects, I can't participate until a passing average is obtained at next 10 week report card. If I am suspended from school for disciplinary reasons, I will not be allowed to participate in practice or play my sport. The principal will notify the respective coach of this suspension including the duration of the suspension.

Student Athletes Code Of Ethics

I give 100% at all practices and games.

I will do my best to learn from and listen to my coaches.

I will attend every practice and game and will notify my coach if I cannot.

I will encourage and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

I will respect the judgment of the officials

I expect to receive a fair amount of playing time in each game.

Uniforms/Equipment

It is the responsibility of the athlete and parent/guardian to make certain all school property including uniforms are returned to the coach. The coach will provide to the SD and principal, the name of the student(s) who do not return uniforms. If the uniform is not returned, the student's report card **will be** withheld. If the uniform is lost, a fee of \$35.00 will be assessed for replacement and the student's report card will be withheld until this fee is paid.

Sports Awards

An addendum to this section will be forthcoming

Rules regarding “moving up”

An athlete can only participate with students in his/her own grade level(s). Two situations will be exceptions to this guideline. The first exception is in the event a team cannot participate for an entire season due to an insufficient number of athletes. If this occurs, an athlete can be “recruited” from the next lower grade **only**. For example, if a 7th/8th grade team needs an athlete to form a team, the player must be recruited from the 6th grade. This recruitment must be approved by coaches involved, the principal and the parent/guardian of the athlete in question. If an athlete “moves up” he/she will remain on that team **only** for the entire season. The second exception is in the event a team knows in advance it will not have enough athletes to participate in a single game. For basketball, this means a team has no more than seven athletes available for a game. If this occurs, a team may recruit an athlete from the next lowest grade **only** to participate in this single game. If this situation occurs more than once in a season, a different player must be recruited for each circumstance. The principal, coaches of both teams and the parent/guardian of the athlete involved must approve this recruitment.

Coaches & Parent/Guardian Grievances

If a parent or guardian has a grievance, it is recommended the situation be brought to the attention of the coach first. If there is no resolution, the parent or guardian should notify the SD. The SD will notify the principal of the grievance and can either attempt to resolve the situation or request that the principal intervene. If a coach has a grievance with an athlete, he/she can contact the parent/guardian and or the SD and principal. All grievances should be settled keeping in mind the best interest of the child.

NOTE: As with all issues regarding the school, the Principal and the Pastor have the final authority on any unresolved sports issues.