



***Athletic Handbook
Trinity Lutheran School
Indianapolis, Indiana
2011-2012***

Dear Parents and Athletes,

The administration and coaches are happy that you have chosen to take advantage of the athletic opportunities that are offered at Trinity Lutheran School. It is our hope that these experiences will be enjoyable and rewarding for you and that you will use them to build your Christian character and use your talents to the glory of God.

This handbook will provide you with understanding, purpose, organization, and information about the various athletic sports provided by the school.

Have a great season!



The Purpose of Athletics at Trinity

The interscholastic athletic program at Trinity is an important part of the total educational program. It provides students the opportunities to learn and gain experiences that cannot be acquired except on the various playing fields in competition with others. It is here and under these conditions that the athlete can put into practice the Christian values and ethics taught in the classrooms and church.

Trinity, in partnership with parents, seeks to minister to the student athlete by teaching Christian sportsmanship and instilling the attitude that one can both win and lose with dignity, and without boasting or excuse. Young athletes on the playing field demonstrate the physical abilities that God has blessed them with, and they use these talents to bring God glory. By practicing good Christian sportsmanship, an attitude of wanting to do their very best, cooperation and teamwork with fellow team members, self-discipline and dedication, the Trinity athlete makes the statement to everyone watching that they are ultimately on God's team and they play to win praise for God.

Objectives of the Athletic Program

The student athletes will:

- Recognize their talents as blessings from God and will develop and use them in God pleasing ways,
- Be given the opportunity to play as a child, not as an adult,
- Learn the skills and strategies associated with each sport,
- Unselfishly recognize and respect the talents and abilities of others on their team and on the competing teams,
- Display the values of Christian sportsmanship,

- Develop the understanding and attitude that trophies do not make the team a winner, instead everyone is a winner when they have done their best on the playing field,
- Accept the responsibility for the hard work and commitment necessary for being part of the team,
- Have fun through physical activity.

The Athletic Program

Sports Offered

Trinity is a member of the Marion County Athletic Association. As a member of this association, the school participates in the following interscholastic sports:

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|
| Fall: | Varsity Soccer | Grades 5-8 |
| | Girls Varsity Volleyball | Grades 7-8 |
| | Girls Reserve Volleyball | Grades 5-6 |
| Winter: | Girls Varsity Basketball | Grades 7-8 |
| | Girls Reserve Basketball | Grades 5-6 |
| | Boys Varsity Basketball | Grades 7-8 |
| | Boys Reserve Basketball | Grades 5-6 |
| | Varsity Cheerleading | Grades 7-8 |
| | Reserve Cheerleading | Grade 6 |

Sixth grade students may be placed on the varsity team only for the purpose of filling the varsity team. If needed, fourth grade students may be placed on athletic teams.

Expectations of Teams

Junior Varsity - This is the entry level, the learning stage, for this sport. The main purpose for this level is to learn the fundamentals and skills of the game. At this level all students play in every game, not necessarily however, equal time. Although winning the game is a goal, participation and experience are the main goals.

Varsity - The Varsity teams apply all of their experience and ability to winning the game. Teaching of skills will continue to be stressed. Although everyone will have the opportunity to play, it is possible that not every athlete will have the chance to play in every game. The game is played with the intention of bringing home an honorable victory.

Eligibility for School Athletics

Although Trinity is primarily an academic institution, the school endeavors to provide any interested student the opportunity of joining a sports team. Unless special exception is made by the principal, athletic director, and coach, students who maintain at least a cumulative "C" grade average in all subjects without a failing grade in any one subject and display proper behavior and conduct in school at all times may go out for the teams. Where completion of assignments, quality of effort, and conduct become a problem, the following guidelines will apply:

Temporary Suspension

The grades of each athlete are checked periodically. If the grades for any student fall below a "C" average for all subject areas or failing in any one subject, the parents and student are notified, and the student will be placed on one week suspension. If at the end of that week the student's grades meet the above criteria, or have shown marked improvement, the student is again eligible. If at the end of that week the grades are still below the criteria, or marked improvement is not shown, the student is ineligible until the end of the next grading period (mid-term or quarter). The student on suspension may not participate in any practices or games.

A student who receives official school disciplinary action will also be placed on athletic suspension. In-school detentions make the student ineligible for the next scheduled activity. Also, if a "blue note," a notice of insufficient work, is not returned the next day with the required signature and completed work, the student may not participate in the next sports activity.

Any student who receives a red card (soccer and volleyball) or a technical foul (basketball) for **unsportsmanlike** conduct shall be ineligible for two halves (two games for volleyball). Each coach also has the right to suspend a player from the team for failing to obey team rules established by the coach.

Removal from the roster

Repeated violations of the rules may result in the player being removed from the roster. This decision will be made by the coach, athletic director, and principal.

Physical Examinations

All students participating in the school's interscholastic sports program are required to have a physician's approval. Sport physical forms are available in the school office. The completed forms must be turned in to the school office by the Friday prior to the first scheduled game or the student will be ineligible until the form is turned in. Dates for the physical must be between May 1 and the sports season.

Absences

Students absent from school due to illness or for an unexcused absence are not allowed to participate in practices or games that day. If a student in attendance does not participate in Physical Education class they are also ineligible that day.

Sports Fee

There is a \$25 sports fee per student for each sport. The sports fee covers insurance carried on each athlete as well as helping to defray costs associated with upkeep of facilities. This must be turned into the office prior to the first scheduled game. Athletes will not be allowed to play in games until this fee has been paid.

Uniforms

Uniforms for basketball, soccer and cheerleading are the property of Trinity. Proper care of uniforms is expected. **Uniforms should be changed into and out of at the sight of the game.** Washed and cleaned uniforms should be returned one week after the conclusion of the season.

Transportation

Transportation to and from games is the responsibility of the parents. If a parent is unable to attend a game, please make arrangements for your child. Do not expect the coach to provide transportation for your child. Coaches will assist in helping arrange carpooling when necessary.

Church Attendance

At Trinity Lutheran School Christ is the center of everything we do. As such, athletes are expected to attend church on a weekly basis. If church attendance becomes an issue, the principal and athletic director will meet with the parents and athlete to discuss how we will help the athlete fulfill this expectation.

Game-Day Attire

Game day attire is khaki or navy blue slacks or skirts with a collared Trinity polo shirt. Skirts must extend to within 5” of the back of the knee. No jeans or shorts are to be worn.

Cuts

All students desiring to play on a reserve team will be given the opportunity to participate. Every reasonable effort will be made to accept all students on the varsity level. However, if the eligible number of team members is deemed to be unmanageable, cuts may be made. This decision will be made after consultation with the coach, athletic director, principal, and pastor.

Cheerleading Tryouts

Varsity cheerleading tryouts will be determined by the coach with the approval of the athletic director, principal, and pastor.

Practice and Games

A printed schedule of all games and practices will be handed out as soon as possible. During the basketball season, no team will practice more than two times per week once the first game has been played. Please keep coaches informed when a student is unable to attend a practice **and especially if he/she is unable to attend a game.**

Raising Concerns with the Coach

During a game, the coach has many things on his/her mind, especially if the game is an emotional one. For this reason **parents should never bring their concerns about coaching strategies to the attention of the coach during the game.** If there are questions about coaching strategies or about player participation, the time to raise these concerns with the coach is the next day. The concern can be more objectively discussed and a proper solution can be determined. Concerns should be directed in the following order: 1) coach 2) athletic director 3) principal 4) pastor 5) chairman of the school board.

Athletic Award

The Trinity Lutheran School Christian Athlete Award will be presented to one eighth grade girl and one eighth grade boy that most exhibits the characteristics of Christian sportsmanship and team dedication. Any eighth grade student participating in one or more sports is eligible to receive this award. This award shall be selected by the coaches of all varsity teams and athletic director.

Booster Club

The Trinity Lutheran School Booster Club supports athletic programs of Trinity through manpower and financial backing. Booster Club purchases uniforms, equipment, and other essential needs of the athletic program. Membership is open to all through an annual membership fee.

Indianapolis Area Lutheran Schools Guidelines for Players, Spectators, and Coaches

Players

1. Team players are representing their school and their Lord and will do so in a Christ-like manner.
2. Players will show respect for property when visiting other schools.
3. Players will try their best, but not make winning their most important goal, but rather that they display Christian action.
4. Players will win with humility and lose with grace.
5. Players are not to question the decisions of referees but accept those decisions graciously.
6. Players will play within the rules and keep a fair sense of play.
7. Players may never use crude, vulgar, or un-Christian language.
8. Players are to be polite to opposing coaches and teams.
9. Players will never belittle or make fun of other players.
10. Players will respect their coaches as their parents' representative.

Spectators

1. Spectators at games should behave in a Christian manner.

2. Cheering will always be positive, and negative yelling will not be tolerated.
3. Fans who are parents should give Christian witness to their children on the team.
4. Fans should at all times show respect for the referees.
5. Spectators should encourage one another to behave in a Christian manner.
6. Fans should respect others' property when visiting other schools.
7. Spectators should be kind and polite to opposing teams, coaches, and fans.
8. Parents of players should instruct their children that their Christian witness and fair play are more important than winning.
9. Fans should be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
10. Rude, vulgar, and un-Christian language by spectators will not be tolerated.

Coaches

1. Coaches represent the school, teachers, parents, and Christ when with the players.
2. Coaches will emphasize as their main goal the development of Christian attitudes toward athletics.
3. Winning should be secondary to positive Christian teaching.
4. Coaches should always represent their Lord in appearance, attitude, and action.
5. When questioning referees' decisions, coaches should do so in a God-pleasing manner.

6. Coaches should by their speech and action demonstrate proper game behavior to their players and fans.
7. Rude and vulgar language are never to be used by coaches.
8. Coaches are to instruct their players in a kind and loving manner and should not berate the players in their care.
9. Coaches should discipline children who are not demonstrating Christian behavior by removing them from competition.
10. Coaches should instruct players about the proper respect of property when visiting other schools.

*Specific problems concerning these guidelines and infractions against them will be dealt with by the Indianapolis Area Lutheran Schools Athletic Council.

**Responsibility for enforcing the league rules for players, fans, and coaches is the responsibility of the Trinity Athletic Director.

Sportsmanship is contagious - let others catch it from you!

Directions

Baptist Academy – West on 16th Street to Franklin Road. South on Franklin to Raymond Street. East on Raymond to Keystone Avenue. South on Keystone to Walker Avenue. West on Walker to Villa Avenue. Then South on Villa to the school at 2565 S.Villa Ave., Indianapolis, (317)788-1587.

Calvary - 16th west to Shadeland. Shadeland south to I-465 south. Exit US 31 south to Edgewood(third traffic light). Follow Edgewood east to Shelby. Shelby south to the school. 6111 Shelby St.

Emmaus - 16th east to Post. Post south to Raymond. Raymond west to Shelby. Shelby north to Orange. Orange east to the school. Located at the corner of Orange and Laurel. 1224 Laurel.

Holy Cross- 16th east to Post. Post north to Pendleton Pike. Turn right onto Pendleton Pike. Take Pendleton Pike to Oaklandon Rd. and turn left onto Oaklandon Rd. to school at 8115 Oaklandon Rd.

Horizon- East on 16th to Post Rd. North on Post to 21st St. East on 21st St. to German Church Rd. North on German Church/Sunnyside Rd. to 75th St.. West on 75th St. to Indian Lake Rd. North on Indian Lake to the school at 7700 Indian Lake Rd., Indianapolis, (317)823-4538

Lutheran High School - 16th west to Shadeland. Shadeland south to I465 to Southeastern exit. Southeastern St. west to Arlington. Arlington south to the school at 5555 South Arlington, (317) 787-5474.

Mooresville Christian Academy - 16th west to Shadeland Ave. Shadeland south to I465. I465 west to Kentucky Ave./State Road 67 exit. South on 67 to State Road 144. East on 144 to the school at 4271 S.R. 144 East, Mooresville, (317)831-0799.

Orchard - I-465 north to 56th. 56th west to Kessler. Kessler north to Springmill. Springmill east to 64th. 64th north to the school. 615 West 63rd St.

Our Shepherd - I-70 west through town to I-465 on the west side. Take the 10th Street exit. West on 10th Street to the school at 9201 E 100 N, Avon, (317)271-9100.

Southport Presbyterian - 16th west to Shadeland Ave. Shadeland south to I465. I465 west to I65 South. South on I65 to Southport Road exit. Southport Rd. west to McFarland Blvd. South on McFarland to the school at 7525 McFarland Blvd., Indianapolis, (317)534-2929.

St. James - Lafayette - I-65 north to Lafayette exit at S.R. 26. S.R. 26 west to Main St. Right on Main and follow to 9th. 9th north to the parking lot. The lot is on the west side of the street. 615 N. 8th St.

St. John - 16th west to Shadeland. Shadeland south to the Southeastern exit. Follow Southeastern west to the first left turn. Turn back left onto eastbound Southeastern to the school. The school is on the north side of the road. 6630 Southeastern Ave.

St. Michael's School – 16th Street to Post Rd. South on Post Rd. to Washington Street. East on Washington St. to Jefferson Blvd. North on Jefferson to the school at 519 Jefferson Blvd., Greenfield, (317)462-4240

Indiana School for the Deaf - I-70 west to Keystone. Keystone north to 38th. 38th west to Fall Creek. Fall Creek north to Evanston. Evanston north to 42nd. 42nd west to the school. 1200 East 42nd St.

Zion - Washington St. east to Mt. Comfort Rd.(600W). Right on Mt. Comfort for 3 miles to 300S. Right(west) on 300S to the school. 6513 West 300S.