



Pilgrim Lutheran School

Athletic Handbook

2016-2017

Introduction

Pilgrim Lutheran School's athletic programs are part of an overall educational plan to equip students spiritually, mentally, socially, and physically. Pilgrim does not wish simply to develop an athletic program in our Lutheran School, but to develop a Christian athletic program for our school. Athletics are meant to give students an opportunity to "put their faith into practice," and to promote the qualities of sportsmanship, teamwork, fair-play and wholesome competition.

Overview

Boys grades 3-8 are eligible to play flag football, soccer, basketball and track

Girls grades 3-8 are eligible to play softball, volleyball, basketball and track

As a general rule students in grades 6-8 are a part of Pilgrim's A team. Students in grades 3-5 are eligible to play on our B team. Of course depending on student enrollment this many change from year to year.

Boys and Girls grade K-2 will play two games of T-Ball and participate in at least one track meet.

Notes

"A" teams are generally formed from student in Grades Seven and Eight. "B" teams are generally formed from students in Grades Five and Six. Younger students may be used on "A" teams, but if they

play on a "B" teams, conference guidelines state they cannot start on an "A" team; with the exception when low number come into play. Students should play "A" and "B" teams only in an emergency. It should be an exception, not a rule. Fourth Grade Students may be used on a "B" teams when enough Fifth and Sixth Grade students are not present, due to low enrollment or lack of interest. All players should get a chance to play in a game, unless discipline procedures are being enforced. Amount of playing time is determined by the coach in respect to players and team.

Philosophy

All aspects of life are to be done to glorify God, this includes play in athletics. A player's and coach's conduct results from their thankfulness to God. Whenever we participate in sports, we do it in the name of Jesus. "Whatever we do, whether in work or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus," Colossians 3:27

We have been given different gifts. Gifts are to be used to glorify God, and in the emphasis of team play. Team work is emphasized during practices and games. Student athletes are to be taught respect for authority. (Romans 13) They are to respect their coach. They are to respect all officials and coaches who are placed over the players. Players and coaches are to be self- controlled with calls made during games. Players are to respect anyone else in authority, such as coaches from opposing teams or those that supervise a facility. Respect of property is observed during practices and games. Participation in athletics helps us to take care of our bodies, temples of the Holy Spirit. A lifelong habit of regular exercise is positive and is beneficial use of leisure times. In a game we face opponents, not enemies. Athletics are a great value to our school,

but need to be kept in perspective. Spiritual training, education, and family time still receive the highest priority in our school environment.

Coaches

Coaches should give glory to God in your coaching. Coaches should witness and model their faith to the team. They are a major role model for our athletics. Promote and develop team attitudes that reflect the values and philosophies held by Pilgrim Lutheran School.

Practice good sportsmanship and fair play. The dictionary defines a sportsman as "a person who can take a loss without complaints, or a victory without gloating, and who treats opponents with generosity and courtesy. Students should be taught that we have an opportunity to witness of our faith during athletic events. Be at practices and games. Ensure the supervision and safety of all players. Our school and its parents are entrusting their children, a very precious commodity to you. Players not picked-up by 4:30PM, after a practice, should be sent to After Care. Be responsible for all players' behavior as soon as they enter the field or gym, and until they go home. All players must be picked up, following the game, before the coach leaves for home.

The coach is responsible to secure transportation. When traveling, each player must have a seat belt. Riding in the back of a pickup truck is absolutely forbidden. Develop to a greater degree skills needed and knowledge of the rules. Provide a practice and game schedule of dates, along with expectations, to all players and families at the first or second practice. Arrive, at least, fifteen to twenty minutes before games. Secure all necessary equipment from the Athletic Director. Also, report any equipment needs to the Athletic Director. Have students warm-up and cool down in good order.

Encourage school pride and spirit. Before a game, you may want to begin with a prayer. Be respectful, but don't allow the team to be led in prayer by a coach or head official that is not in fellowship with the WELS.

In summary, strive to maintain a pleasant Christian atmosphere in both practices and games.

Athletes

Each time an athlete participates he or she has an opportunity to give glory to God. Therefore, each athlete must exercise self-control in language and behavior. In the unlikely event of the loss of self-control any players receiving a technical foul for "unsportsman-like" conduct may be out of the remainder of that game. This is left up to the coach's discrepancy. Pilgrim athletes will exercise sportsmanship. Opponents are an opponent in a game, not life. Shaking hands at the end of a game is not formality, but an opportunity to meet a friend. Be respectful of you opponent before, during, and after games. Pilgrim athletes are to respect authority. This is to be shown to coaches, officials, and those in charge of facilities. When visiting another school, we are to respect the rules of that school and use of facility. Athletes stay on the bench during the game, unless an emergency arises; and the coach has given approval to leave. Players are not to go in stands and other places during a game. Athletes are to maintain a cooperative attitude toward the coach and fellow team members. Athletes are to compete hard, doing always, their God given best. Players are expected to be at games and practices. If there is a reason to miss, the coach must be notified before the game or practice. Missing practice or game without excuse may result in loss of playing time. Missing any combination of three without excuse can lead to no

longer being part of the team. All players who practice will play in a game. Amount of playing time is determined by attitude and abilities. Students must be at school, at least part of the day, on game days, in order to play.

Athletes are to arrive and leave games in a timely manner. All washed uniforms are to be turned into the coach within a week following the last game. Parents are to encourage, and lead by example, in all before mentioned points. In athletics, many people can lose temper and perspective. Instead of glorifying God and teaching by example, student athletes can learn things that go against His Will.

Participation Certificates and Pins for A-team

In order for an athlete to receive a sports pin each athlete must: Participate on an "A" flag football, softball, volleyball, soccer, basketball or track team. Athletes need to participate in 75% of the scheduled practices. Athletes can miss only one game per sporting season for sickness or other excused absence. Athletes have to participate in all scheduled tournaments. Athletes have to complete the entire season. If all of these requirements are met a pin will be issued at the end of the season or during our yearly awards ceremony. If athletes do not meet all these requirements they will still be awarded a participation certificate.

Athletic Director

In order to maintain a quality program, the athletic director functions in the following capacities:

- 1) Set schedules, mainly through the Black Canyon Lutheran Athletic League for all Pilgrim
- 2) Make arrangements to contact opponent school
- 3) Secure officials for home game
- 4) Provide directions to coaches for away games
- 5) Conduct yearly inventory of athletic items
- 6) Keep organized storage area for equipment, and develop a system to know where and how equipment is being used
- 7) The principal will provide information about how much budget money is available each year for athletic equipment. Prepare the order and give to the principal. Monies can also be gathered through various service organizations. Reports of how these monies are spent should be provided to the principal and School Board.

It is our prayer, that God will richly bless the athletes, coaches, and parents of Pilgrim Lutheran School. May what is done through our programs, be to His glory.

**"In the same way, let your light shine
before men,
that they may see your good deeds
and praise your Father in heaven."**

Matthew 5:16