

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL



CRUSADER ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2012 – 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

JOEL SCHULTZ, BOYS' ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
MARTHA LAU, GIRLS' ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

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Philosophy

Mission:

Trinity Lutheran School exists to provide a quality Christ-centered education as we partner with parents of our church and the community to equip their children to be faithful stewards, evangelists, productive citizens in this world, and heirs of heaven.

Athletic endeavors give Trinity students an opportunity to share their faith and use their God given talents to show their love for their Savior, Jesus.

“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name.”

- Hebrews 13:15

Motivation:

God has blessed each Trinity student and expects each student to use the gifts he/she has been given in a faithful manner.

“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”

- 1 Corinthians 4:2

Using these gifts to their fullest potential gives glory to God and not the individual.

“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Goals:

Athletics is a vital part of the whole curriculum. The Word of God is also the Word of Life and a Christian philosophy of life should govern and encompass every aspect and dimension of our school programs which certainly includes the athletic activities of our school. The goals of our athletic program are:

1. To help all students recognize and use the gifts that they have received from God.
2. To develop character traits such as self-discipline, self-esteem, responsibility, leadership, team-work and self control under pressure, defeat, and failure, as well as proper acceptance of success and victory.
3. To give students the opportunity to work with other students in team sports.
4. To help prepare our students for participation in advanced levels of athletics.
5. To provide a Christian witness to all our members and to our community and to demonstrate by example the fruits of Christian faith in athletic competition.

Expected Parent Responsibilities

1. Parents will conduct themselves at all times and in all things in a God pleasing manner. Parents will realize that they are Christian role-models for their children.
2. Parents should provide transportation by driving (or furnishing drivers for practice and events.) Teachers and coaches are not expected to provide this transportation.
3. Parents should supervise their younger children that they bring along to games. Do not let them run loose throughout the building or go outside.
4. Parents will accept officials' decisions as part of the game. There is to be no criticism of the officials from the sidelines. This is a good opportunity to let your let shine.
5. Parents should assist where necessary in care of uniforms and keeping participants' personal equipment clean.
6. Parents will pick up their children from scheduled practices and games promptly.

Expected Coaching Responsibilities

1. Coaches will conduct themselves at all times and in all things in a God pleasing manner. Coaches will realize that they are Christian role-models for their players.
2. Coaches will emphasize to their players that athletics is a way to represent their school, family and faith.
3. Coaches will encourage their players to use their God given abilities to their fullest potential. Coaches will also encourage their players by focusing on the positive and avoid discussing the negative.
4. Coaches will be punctual for all practices and games.
5. Coaches will teach their players the fundamental skills, rules and strategies of the sport.
6. Coaches will treat each player, coach, parent, and administrator from Trinity, and the opposing team, and all officials with dignity and respect.
7. Coaches will be sure that the Trinity and opposing facilities are treated with care and respect. Coaches will make sure that the bench areas are cleaned before leaving.

Expected Player Responsibilities

1. Players will conduct themselves in a Christian manner both on and off the playing field.
2. Players will respect and follow the directions of the coach.
3. Players will accept all calls of the officials.
4. Players will play to win in a sportsmanlike manner as part of a team, and not for self glorification.
5. Players will give glory to God in winning and losing.
6. Players will be respectful of equipment both in our school and in our opponents' schools.
7. Players will faithfully care for any issued uniforms.
8. Players will attend all practices and games. If a player is unable to attend a practice or a game, the coach should be notified as far in advance as possible.
9. Players use their God-given talents to the best of their ability at all times, during both practices and games.
10. Players will maintain an academic level in keeping with your God-given abilities. Athletics is never to be used as an excuse for poor or incomplete work in school.

Away Games and Tournaments

Parents are responsible for securing transportation for their child(ren) to and from away games and tournaments. A team roster will be supplied to the parents by the coach and/or the Athletic Directors so that all parents know who is on the team. Contact information for all families can be found in the school directory which is distributed in the fall of each year.

Attendance

Players are expected to attend all games and practices. Parents are expected to excuse their child from a game or practice prior to the absence. The notice should be made by written note, email, or phone call. If a player is absent from school for the afternoon session, he/she may not participate in that day's practices or games. If a player misses a practice during a week, his/her playing time for an upcoming game or tournament may be diminished.

Medical Release

All parents must sign a medical release form giving permission for their child to participate in the Trinity Athletic Program. This must be completed and turned in before any participation happens. These forms will be handed out at Registration Day. You may also receive a form from the website or by speaking to your Athletic Directors.

Athletic Eligibility

It is a privilege to participate on an athletic team at Trinity Lutheran School. Our students are expected to use their God-given talents to their fullest in extracurricular activities, but their first responsibility is academics and behavior. Therefore the following standards have been established in order to participate:

1. The student must have at least a satisfactory grade in conduct.
2. Having 3 'D's or 1 'F' at midterm or quarter grading periods would render a student ineligible.
3. A Student declared ineligible may not participate in practices or games for one week. Eligibility will then be reevaluated.
4. In order for the student's eligibility to be reinstated, the student must conform to numbers 1 and 2 above.
5. All grades are used to determine eligibility.
6. Unique circumstances may permit exceptions to these standards.
7. Eligibility for learning-disabled or special-needs students will be determined in consultation with the classroom teacher, athletic directors, and student's parents on a case-by-case basis.
8. Any student who has been suspended from school for disciplinary or other reasons will not be allowed to participate in sports during that suspension period.

Any decision regarding eligibility may be appealed first to the Athletic Directors, then the Principal, and then the Board of Christian Education.

The right of participating in athletics is a privilege extended to all students, but continued participation in athletic events requires more than meeting the eligibility requirements. Student athletes must also be in regular attendance at practice and display a Christian attitude through their actions while at practice and games. Failure to follow these guidelines will lead to a student being reprimanded or removed from the team.

Interscholastic Teams

Trinity offers the following interscholastic opportunities for boys and girls:

Fall

Boys' Soccer	grades 5 - 8
Girls' Volleyball (A & B)	grades 5 - 8
Cross Country	grades 5 - 8

Spring

Girls' Soccer	grades 5 - 8
Softball (boys & girls-A&B)	grades 5 - 8
Track (boys & girls)	grades 5 - 8

Winter

Boys' & Girls' Basketball (A, B & C)	grades 3 – 8
Cheerleading (A & B)	grades 5 – 8

Here is a brief explanation on what students and parents can expect from each level:

C Teams

- * The goal of this team is to provide 3rd and 4th grade students with the skills and fundamentals of basketball.

- * The number of practices will be emphasized over the number of games.

B Teams

- * B Team level is primarily instructional in nature and therefore winning is not a priority.

- * All team members are guaranteed an amount of playing time in non-tournament games.

- * In tournaments, coaches are not compelled to use all team members in a given competition, but coaches will make every effort to include all team members if possible.

- * A team member's attitude, especially during practice, attendance at practice, and determination are factors coaches should take into consideration when giving team members playing time.

A Teams

- * Winning is the desired goal of each contest.

- * Competition level provided by opponent determines how much an individual plays in a given game or match. Tougher competition means we will play our better, more experienced players more. Weaker competition means we have the opportunity for weaker players to develop their skills more fully.

* Coaches are not compelled to use all team members in a given competition, but coaches will make every effort to include all team members if possible.

* A team member's attitude, especially during practice, attendance at practice, and determination are factors coaches will take into consideration when giving team members playing time.

Cheerleading Guidelines

1. Uniform requests, including gloves, hair paint, corsages, etc., must be approved by the coach and the Athletic Director.
2. All music and words used and movements of special routines are to be approved by the coach and the Athletic Director.
3. Spirit Week days and events, pep rally form and content are to be approved by the coach and the Athletic Director at least one week in advance.
4. Uniforms are not to be worn on game days except immediately prior to and after the game for which they cheer.
5. Cheerleaders must read and complete a cheerleading contract each year.

Uniform Care

1. Uniforms are to be worn for games only. Uniforms are not to be worn while eating.
2. Uniforms are to be hung out to dry immediately after games, (not left in gym bags).
3. Uniforms should be washed as needed or after every other use (whichever comes first).
4. Wash in warm (not hot) water by hand or using a gentle cycle. Be careful of bleeding colors!
5. Line dry. Do not iron unless necessary. Do not touch lettering with an iron. Use as cool an iron as possible.
6. Return uniform within two weeks to the Athletic Director (washed, dried, and folded) after the season.
7. Uniforms are quite expensive and often not replaceable! Please treat them with care.

Chain of Command

At times, there may be a question or concern about athletics at Trinity. Please bring your questions and concerns to the proper person so that it may be addressed promptly and properly.

- Speak with the coach. More than one meeting may be needed for the issue to be understood and action to be taken.
- If the question or concern is not satisfactorily addressed, the coach and parent should bring the issue to the athletic director.
- If the question or concern is not satisfactorily addressed, the coach, parent and athletic director should bring the issue to the principal.

- If the question or concern is not satisfactorily addressed, the coach, parent, athletic director and principal should bring the issue to the attention of the school board chairman.
- If the question or concern is not satisfactorily addressed, the school board chairman will include the item on the agenda of the next available school board meeting.

Concussion Guidelines

The concussion bill, sponsored by Rep. Jason Fields and Sen. Alberta Darling and supported by the National Football League, the Green Bay Packers and various health care providers, was signed into law by Gov. Scott Walker Monday, April 2, 2012.

In connection with the WIAA concussion policy that has been in existence for many years, the law requires immediate removal of an individual from a youth athletic activity if symptoms indicate a possible concussion has been sustained. Subsequently, if a concussion is confirmed, individuals may only return to competition or practice after being evaluated by a trained health care provider. The health care provider is required to provide written clearance in order for the athlete to return to action.

The law requires all youth athletic organizations to educate coaches, student-athletes and parents on the risks of concussions and prohibits participation in a youth activity until a parent or guardian has returned a signed information sheet indicating they have reviewed the materials. In addition, the state Department of Public Instruction, with assistance from the WIAA, was directed to develop guidelines and other information to educate coaches, athletes and parents about the risk of concussions and head injuries in all youth sports, including club sports.

The law also includes provisions to protect coaches, officials or volunteers from liability if they fail to remove an athlete from competition, unless there is gross negligence or gross misconduct. There are 36 other states with a similar concussion law.

Trinity Lutheran School will abide by this law by doing the following:

1. Each family that has a child participating in an athletic event will be given a fact sheet on concussions.
2. Each parent and student athlete will sign an acknowledgement form per sport each year stating that they understand the “ABCs” of concussions.
3. Each coach will go through training and also sign an acknowledgement form so that they know what to expect if an athlete should be hurt during practice or contest.
4. The above forms will be on file at the school during the entire school year.

Athletic Conference

Trinity Lutheran School is a member of the Lake Lutheran Athletic Conference (LLAC). This athletic league consists of WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) grade schools that are in the Shoreland Lutheran High School Federation. Participating schools in this league are as follows:

Bethany Lutheran - Kenosha, WI

Friedens Lutheran - Kenosha, WI

St. John's, Burlington, WI

First Lutheran - Elkhorn, WI

First Lutheran - Lake Geneva, WI

Wisconsin Lutheran School - Racine, WI

Trinity Lutheran - Caledonia, WI

Faith Lutheran - Antioch, IL

Immanuel Lutheran - Waukegan, IL

Our Savior's Lutheran - Zion, IL

St. John's Lutheran - Libertyville, IL

Purpose of the Lake Lutheran Athletic Conference (LLAC)

Section 1 - To promote Christian sportsmanship.

Section 2 - To help develop moral, ethical, spiritual, and physical characteristics of the child.

Section 3 - To promote Christian fellowship

Section 4 - To develop a better understanding of the sports that the conference offers.

Section 5 - To promote Shoreland Lutheran High School as secondary education alternative for our LLAC schools.

Website

Please check the Trinity Athletics' Website often. Here you will find an up-to-date list of information for each sport plus any announcements or informational notes regarding our athletics program here at Trinity.

Contact Information

Your athletic directors are here for you. Please feel free to contact them at anytime.

Martha Lau, Girls' Athletic Director

Cell Phone – 414.807.5923

Email – mlau@trinitycaledonia.org

Joel Schultz, Boy's Athletic Director

Cell Phone – 262.515.3910

Email – jschultz@trinitycaledonia.org

Trinity Lutheran School – 262.835.4326 – www.trinitycaledonia.org