

# Athletics Program Handbook



Grace Lutheran School Menomonee Falls, WI

Modified - May 2025  
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I can do all things  
through  
**Christ**  
who strengthens me.  
Philippians 4:13

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## INTRODUCTION

The Grace Lutheran School Athletics Program Handbook is a reference guide for coaches, student-athletes and parents concerning the policies that govern interscholastic athletics at Grace Lutheran School. It is our goal to expose as many students as possible to the benefits derived from participation in education-based athletics at the scholastic level. Further, the experience is best served when students, coaches, parents and administrators are informed, have open lines of communication, know what is expected of them, and truly commit to assuring that the mission and ideals of education-based athletics are aligned with daily practice in the operation of these programs.

The coach of an athletic team reports to the Grace Athletics Leadership Team and is primarily responsible for the compliance by his/her team members to the rules, regulations, and policies governing athletics at Grace Lutheran School. The Grace Athletics Leadership Team will administer these rules and regulations as they relate to inter-team and inter-coach relationships. Sound reasoning, good judgment, and adherence to the school's core values will be the standard by which situations outside these stated rules and regulations are determined and evaluated.

Interscholastic athletics is a voluntary program. Students are not obligated to participate. Thus, competition in athletics is a privilege and not a right. Accompanying this privilege is the responsibility to conform to standards established for the athletics program. This privilege may be revoked if the athlete fails or refuses to comply with the rules

Thank you for your participation in our athletic program. May God bless you as you use your God-given athletic abilities and desire to serve Him in this integral part of school life.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Grace Lutheran Ministries is a family growing in Christ while reaching out in love.

## PHILOSOPHY

The athletics program at Grace is an extracurricular part of the total learning experience offered to the student. The athletic program reinforces the school's mission by encouraging physical, emotional, and spiritual growth. The atmosphere of the athletic experience should be God-pleasing with athletes, coaches, and fans striving to be Christ-like in their actions. Players, coaches, and spectators - can witness to the world around them and their behavior and attitude should bring honor to the name of Jesus Christ.

This is accomplished by teaching such principles as:

1. Sportsmanship - demonstrating humility, compassion, generosity, and respect even while being intensely competitive. Participants learn how to control their
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emotions and actions in a Christ-like manner. Team members learn how to both win and lose with grace and dignity

2. Physical fitness - Team members are involved in activities that are healthful, developmental, and fulfilling. Participation in sports should provide student-athletes with beneficial outlets for self-expression and physical exercise in addition to the enjoyment of competitive play.
3. Teamwork - Being part of the group teaches the important life lesson of placing group goals ahead of personal ones and how to make a personal contribution to the welfare of the team.
4. Discipline and self-sacrifice.

### **ATHLETICS PROGRAM CORE VALUES**

1. Christ
  2. Responsibility
  3. Integrity
  4. Trust
  5. Teamwork
  6. Enthusiasm
  7. Respect
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## GENERAL ATHLETICS PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

### School Attendance

Student athletes are required to attend school on a regular and expected basis (no more than 7 absences per trimester). In addition to not being eligible to participate in a practice or game if not at school by noon the day of the event, repeated tardiness (10 or more per trimester) and/or absence from school can result in the student being dismissed from the team at the discretion of the principal, teacher, Athletics Leadership Team, and coach. In such an event, a warning letter will be sent home by the principal to alert the student and their parents of the action which will take place with continued tardiness and/or school absence. Students who are absent more than 20 school days in one year jeopardizes eligibility in any extracurricular activities, and will be determined at the discretion of the Athletic Leadership Team and Principal.

### Athletic Attendance

Attendance at practice sessions and contests is mandatory. Students may be granted permission to miss a practice or contest if an approved excuse is provided to the coach in advance.

1. **Daily Attendance:** Students must be at school by 12:00 to be allowed to practice or play in a game on that day. The Athletics Leadership Team and/or principal may grant an exception for absences due to illness, funerals, doctor appointments, or field trips. The school office will inform the Athletics Leadership Team of any absences who will relay them to the coach if appropriate.
2. **Unexcused absence from practices and contests (i.e returning from family vacation, no reason for absence provided)** will result in loss of play privileges. Unexcused absences from practices and contests should be reported to the Athletics Leadership Team. Coaches are expected to enforce these penalties, with the support of the Athletics Leadership Team.
  - a. The 1st unexcused absence will result in a half-game suspension.
  - b. The 2nd unexcused absence will result in a one full-game suspension.
  - c. The 3rd unexcused absence will result in a one full-game suspension and possible team suspension as determined by the principal, AD, and coach.
3. **School Detentions:** Athletes must serve after school detentions before attending practice or games.

### Calendar

The following guidelines are established in setting the athletic calendar:

1. Fall sports shall be eligible to begin practicing beginning August 7th.
  2. Winter sports shall be eligible to begin practicing beginning November 1st or 1 week before the first tournament of the year - whichever occurs first.
  3. Spring sports shall be eligible to begin practicing beginning April 1st.
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4. The gym shall be closed anytime worship is taking place with the exception of the Grace Shootout and the Grace Classic on Saturday night.
  5. The gym shall be closed on Wednesdays in Lent 5:00-8:00pm and in Advent starting at 6:00-8:00pm.
  6. The gym shall be closed to practices and rentals for the following age groups at the following times:
    - a. Gym is closed for any 6th-12th Grade groups on Sunday Nights from 5:00 - 8:00pm.
    - b. Gym is closed for any 3rd-5th Grade groups on Sunday afternoons 2:30-5:30pm.

## **Cancellations**

If school is cancelled due to weather, any practices and games are automatically cancelled (tournaments may be an exception). If a game or practice is cancelled during the school day, students will be allowed to call parents.

## **Commitment**

Athletes who sign up for a team commit themselves to the entire season. Any athlete who decides to quit a team should have a conference with the coach and a member of the Athletics Leadership Team. An athlete must complete the season in good standing with the team (still an active and eligible member of the team) to participate in any end of the year activities and/or awards.

## **Conduct**

Participation in Grace athletics is a privilege and not a right. Student athletes must display exemplary behavior and attitudes including cooperation, good sportsmanship, respect, self-control, and respect for authority both on and off the court to participate.

Grace Lutheran School athletes should be diligent in preparation, give 100% at all times, demonstrate personal discipline, be respectful in all situations, maintain self-control, show humility, and aggressively pursue excellence regardless of the score, opponent, time, referee, or situation. The ultimate and final responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the student athlete, for it is the student athlete who is accountable to his/her parents, coach, and the Lord.

Our teams should in all things strive to:

1. Glorify God
2. Play Hard
3. Have Fun

## **Fees**

Participation fees are essential to help fund the cost of athletics; game officials, tournament entry fees and supplementary equipment and supplies. Fees will be

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assessed for each team an athlete participates and must be collected prior to the first practice. Fees may change from year to year based on projected costs.

- Boys/Girls Volleyball: \$35
- Boys/Girls Basketball: \$70
- Cross Country/Track: \$30
- Cheer: \$50

### **Fundraising/Collection of Money**

No fundraising activities will be allowed that do not benefit the entire athletics program as a whole. There will be no individual team fundraising activities. All fundraising activities, including in-kind donations, will be led by the Athletics Leadership Team.

Any activities that require the collection of money must be approved by the Athletics Leadership Team and coordinated with the school office. No other individuals should be collecting funds for team activities or purchases. The only exception to this is if a team wishes to purchase coach gifts at the end of the season and a parent wants to coordinate.

### **Medical Treatment**

Coaches may administer topical antibiotics and ointments for cuts and floor burns as well as other basic First Aid items. If your child(ren) is allergic to anything or you desire that these should not be used on your child(ren), you need to notify the Athletics Leadership Team of your desire. Each coach will be provided with an emergency binder with any pertinent information about each player.

### **Nutritional Supplements**

Student athletes should not use supplements for performance enhancement for these reasons:

- No drug is harmless and free of negative consequences.
- Even natural substances in unnatural amounts may have negative health risks.
- There is not enough **research** on the long-range risks of creatine or androstenedione to make these substances worth the risk of using them.

**DISCOURAGED**--These substances can be legally purchased but are prohibited in connection with school programs. They include: Creatine, Caffeine-enhanced products, Energy drinks (e.g., Red Bull, Amp, Advance by PowerAde, Coke Blak), Herbal Caffeine, No Doz, Protein Powders.

### **Playing Time**

- **3-6 Grade Teams:** All team members should participate an equal amount in the games to build individual and team skills.\* Each athlete can develop their God given talents through participation of all team members which will strengthen the athletic program in the future.
  - **7/8 Grade Teams:** Each player has a specific role on the team and while the goal is to have all players participate in each game, players should be taught to
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accept their various roles and support their teammates - even from the bench, if necessary. Playing time will not be equal as the emphasis will shift toward developing the most competitive team possible.

\* Regarding equal playing time: Coaches will, to the best of their ability, try to get everyone to play an equal amount in each game. Given flow of games, clock stoppages, injuries, illness, etc., this may not always be possible. **Tournament Play: Playing time may not be equal as the emphasis shifts towards fielding the most competitive team possible.**

## Practices

All participants are required to attend all practices and contests unless granted special permission by the coach. Practices should be governed by the following standards:

1. An adult coach or assistant must be present at all practices.
2. Practice times for each team are set by the Athletics Leadership Team to accommodate the coaches' and facility availability.
3. Proper practice attire should be worn. Female athletes must wear an appropriate shirt at all times and male athletes are required to wear shirts. Clothing worn to practice follows the same dress code guidelines as set forth in the school handbook.
4. In the event school is canceled in the middle of the day, practice will automatically be canceled.

## Spectators

Spectators should remember that school athletics are learning experiences for the students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Athletes from all sports should be praised in their attempts to improve themselves as athletes and as people. Appreciation for outstanding play by either team should be shown.

At no point should spectators engage directly with a game official or a player/coach from another team. Any concerns at the moment should be handled by the coach. Grace reserves the right to ask spectators to leave.

## Spiritwear

"Grace Gear" to be worn by players or coaches should only be purchased through online stores coordinated by the Athletics Leadership Team. The Grace logo should not be used by a coach, player, or parent without approval by the Athletics Leadership Team.

With the goal of ensuring an equal experience for all athletes, the Athletic Leadership Team will create and coordinate items such as locker decorations and run-throughs. The team will also partner with Student Council and school Administration on pep rally activities.

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## Team Selection

Any student who wishes to participate in a sport will be able to do so as long as they are not otherwise determined ineligible. Grace does not cut kids from athletics and if necessary, will create multiple teams so everyone who wants to can participate. At the end of each school year, parents will be sent an athletics interest survey for the following year. Choosing to participate in a sport on the interest survey will not commit the player to the team, it will only be used so that coaching needs and team makeup can be determined. A commitment form will be sent prior to each season which will commit an athlete to a team.

Rosters will be determined by the coaching staff and Athletics Leadership Team. The Athletics Leadership Team and coaches will keep these goals in mind:

1. Maximize playing time for participants by splitting the athletes into multiple teams when deemed appropriate due to participation numbers. For basketball specifically, teams may be split at 16 participants.
2. When multiple teams exist, assign athletes to teams based upon position and ability, so that players will compete against others of similar caliber.
3. In 3rd-6th grade, an effort will be made to keep athletes of the same grade level together.
4. Players will be moved up for the following reason
  - a. If participation numbers warrant such a move: Specific to basketball, our goal is to have a minimum of 8 athletes per team. If a basketball team has less than 8 athletes, the Athletics Leadership Team in concert with the principal and coaches can approve opening up participation to the next lowest grade. An athlete should NOT be moved up from a lower level to create a team large enough to split into 2. For instance, a player should not be moved up to a 7/8 team in order to have 16 individuals on 7/8 to split it into 2 teams.
  - b. Any exceptions must be approved by the Athletic Leadership Team and the Principal.
5. Should an athlete be moved up a level, the athlete shall participate with the higher-level team for the duration of the season, unless determination is made and agreed to by the coaches, Athletics Leadership Team, and parent(s) of the athlete that moving back down provides the best benefit for the athlete and this shall then be in effect for the remainder of the season. Athletes will not be able to repeatedly move back and forth between teams after being moved up.

## Transportation

Parents are responsible for getting their athletes to and from each matchup.

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## Uniforms

Grace will provide uniforms for the student-athlete. Other appropriate attire will need to be purchased by the student-athlete.

1. School-owned uniforms must be returned at the end of the season in acceptable condition as determined by the Athletics Leadership Team. Athletes will pay for repair or replacement costs.
2. The Athletics Leadership Team will maintain an inventory list of all school-owned uniforms and other equipment.
3. Any equipment or apparel purchased for the student which he/she pays for and then keeps must be approved by the Athletics Leadership Team first. Coaches may not require any financial commitment from any players without prior approval by the Athletics Leadership Team. No Grace athlete should be required to spend extra money to “keep up” with his/her teammates.
4. Uniforms will be replaced on a rotating scale about once every six years or as wear tear dictates.

## ELIGIBILITY

Grace Ministries recognizes the value of interscholastic extracurricular activities for students as an integral part of the total school experience. Since participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is a privilege, and not a right, students are expected to demonstrate competence in the classroom as a condition of participation. Interscholastic extracurricular activities are defined as school-sponsored activities involving more than one school or school district. Examples of these extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, competitive sports and forensics. Participation in athletics may be dependent upon, but not limited to, academics, behavior, and work completion. Students that are eligible to participate but have not met certain academic or behavioral standards set by coaching staff, building principal, and/or other school staff may be required to participate in an academic or behavioral intervention plan. Each plan will be tailored to the needs of that specific student.

### A. Required Forms

These forms and fees must be turned into the Athletics Leadership Team BEFORE an athlete will be allowed to participate in any athletic practice or competition. It is the coach's responsibility to enforce that a student does not participate if these items have not been turned in.

1. **Physician's Physical Exam Form** - Athletes who are entering 5th or 7th grade or are new to the program will need to have on file, a physician's WIAA athletic permit card or physical form signed by the physician. These are available at local clinics and are valid for a period of two years, if the physical was performed after May 1st before the next school year.
  2. **Athletic Handbook/Concussion Signature Form** - Annually, each athlete must sign a form indicating that they have read and agree to abide by the Grace Athletic Policies and have read and have been educated on concussion risks and treatment.
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3. **Informed Consent and Medical Treatment/Insurance Statements** - Grace Lutheran is required to have the Informed Consent and Medical Treatment/Student Insurance Statement, signed by both parents and/or guardians, on file for every athlete. These two forms are updated annually for 3rd-8th grade athletes.

#### **B. School Attendance**

Student athletes are required to attend school on a regular and expected basis (no more than 7 absences per trimester). In addition to not being eligible to participate in a practice or game if not at school by noon the day of the event, repeated tardiness and/or absence from school can result in the student being dismissed from the team at the discretion of the principal, teacher, Athletics Leadership Team, and coach. In such an event, a warning letter will be sent home by the principal to alert the student and their parents of the action which will take place with continued tardiness and/or school absence.

The athletic teams will follow the same guidelines for illnesses as outlined in the student handbook.

#### **C. Academic (5-8 only)**

For Grace athletes, academic success is more important than athletics. If a student does not meet eligibility requirements, they are ineligible to participate in any practice, game, or team gathering during the ineligibility. Students with a diagnosed special educational need who do not meet the academic requirements may be allowed to participate with principal approval.

1. Student effort will be evaluated bi-weekly on Fridays. A student displaying a general lack of effort in their schoolwork may become ineligible for the following 2 week period.
2. A student receiving an average grade of two D's or an F (traditional grading) or below a 2.0 average in an academic subject (standards-based grading) will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Academic subjects include English language arts, math, science, social studies, and religion. A student receiving a 2 and a teacher recommendation in an allied subject area will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Allied subject areas include art, music, physical education, and spanish. If a student is ineligible, they will be placed on probation for 7 consecutive days until the next evaluation.
3. If a student becomes ineligible three times in one season, the student is ineligible for the remainder of the season.

#### **D. Behavior**

Game suspensions are issued for:

- Earning 2 school detentions in a season and for each detention after the initial two.
  - Earning a school suspension
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- Having unexcused absences from games or practices.

Team suspensions will be served sitting on the team's bench at the next scheduled game. If the athlete does not attend the next scheduled game, the suspension will be served at the next scheduled game. The athlete is allowed and expected to participate in practices before that game.

Excessive behavioral issues are grounds for ineligibility based on the decision by the teacher, Athletics Leadership Team, and principal.

### **E. Transfer Students**

Students who transfer to Grace during the school year, may immediately join a Grace team for practice, if they have a physical form on file. The student is ineligible to play in any league games for a 2-week period. The 2 week period will be used for the student to establish a good academic foundation in the classroom and for coaches to evaluate and blend the player to Grace's team.

### **F. Unpaid Tuition, Lunch Balances, School Fees and Extended Care Fees**

Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for all information regarding this. Grace families are expected to pay tuition and fees in a timely manner. Families who are not able to pay on time should contact the school office to arrange an alternate payment schedule. Families may be asked to sign and agree to the alternate payment plan. Failure to pay or follow a pre-arranged payment schedule will result in the following actions:

- 60 days past due for all fees, the student will be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities including athletics. This ineligibility will continue until all fees are paid in full or a payment plan agreement is established with the school and all payments are made on time.

## **COMMUNICATION**

### **COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES**

Coaches are required to communicate with athletes and parents through the Gamechanger app. The Athletics Leadership Team will monitor and administer the app.

If an athlete or parent wants more information or has a concern, the procedure listed below should be followed:

1. The student athlete should first speak directly with his/her head coach,
  2. If further clarification is required, a parent should then contact the head coach (it is advised that no contact between parent and coach be made until, at
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least, the day after the incident/event in question - the so-called “24 hour rule”)

3. If the issue remains unresolved, the parent should then communicate his/her concerns to the Athletics Leadership Team.
4. The principal can be contacted if the issue remains unresolved.

Player /Parent → Head Coach → Athletics Leadership Team → Principal

### **Conflict Resolution (Based on Matthew 18:15)**

If a conflict arises between players, coaches, parents, or staff these guidelines should be followed:

1. An athlete, parent or coach with a concern or complaint should first try to resolve the matter directly and informally with the individual(s) concerned. Individuals with concerns should approach the coach, staff member, player, or parent directly with proper tone and timing. Parties should listen attentively in love avoiding emotional responses sharing information to make sure both parties have correct information. The individuals should work together to develop a plan to improve the situation and resolve the identified issue. Always act and react with love. Avoid third party complaints (“so-and-so told me about what happened with his son and I don’t think it was handled very well” or “I’m not the only one that feels this way.”). Other people with complaints should present their concern directly to the individual involved.
2. If the matter cannot be resolved informally at the individual level, the individuals should meet with a member of the Athletics Leadership Team to attempt to clarify the concern and identify an action plan to resolve the conflict. The Athletics Leadership Team will investigate the facts and meet with the individual(s) involved to determine if the problem can be worked out among the parties involved. The solution arrived at should be communicated back to all parties, either verbally or in writing.
3. If the dispute is still not resolved, the parties may include the principal in the next meeting as a final attempt to resolve the conflict with an action plan. The complainant may submit a written statement, describing his/her concerns in a clear, specific and detailed manner. The principal should further examine and investigate the facts and facilitate a mutually acceptable resolution to the problem.

## **ROLE OF PARENTS/PARENTAL FIGURES**

Parents/parental figures of student athletes have a responsibility to both their child and to the team. Without strong parental support the student athlete will not be able to achieve his/her greatest potential and/or the team may suffer. It is important that

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parents provide positive reinforcement and understand their role as being part of the team.

Parents, as well as players, should be supportive and encourage coaches and teammates at all times. Parents are not coaches and learning to trust coaches is a key step to learning the value of the life lesson experiences athletics provides. It is also important that parents honor the Lord when attending athletic events. In order for Grace Lutheran School's athletic program to be successful, coaches, student athletes, and parents must make a firm commitment to glorify God at all times.

### **Parent Meeting**

A meeting of all players and their parents will be held to explain team policies, collect required forms and fees, and to discuss team goals. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory for all participants and at least one parent/guardian. All forms and fees must be turned in prior to participation in any practice or contest.

Parents must set the standard of exemplary sportsmanship while attending games/matches and when discussing Grace athletics with others and at home. Mutual trust, respect, and encouragement among coaches, players, and parents will help establish an athletic program at Grace which is well respected by other schools.

Parents are encouraged to be supportive of athletics in these ways:

- Requiring that their athlete attend all practices, games and tournaments.
  - Volunteer as much as possible. For our athletic program to be successful, volunteers are needed for home games and tournaments.
  - Game officials should be treated with respect. Understand that they, like you, are fallible and are doing their best to promote the student-athlete. Admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public and be eager to accept their authority.
  - Respect should be shown to the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.
  - Receive authorization from the coach prior to a parent attending practice. It is permissible for parents to attend the last 10 minutes of practice without prior authorization from the coach.
  - Keep game and practice availability up to date in GameChanger. If you update attendance within 24 hours of the activity, please also send a message to the coach.
  - Parents should feel free to have open, constructive discussions with the coach on issues pertaining to their child. Parents should expect that the coach will respond with honesty, respect, and a mutual concern for the well-being of their child.
  - Nourish their children's faith by regular attendance at weekend worship (at home as well as away at tournaments), Sunday school, Bible class, and home devotions.
  - Understand that athletes may receive disciplinary actions for being late, being without equipment or attire, or having an unexcused absence.
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- Be prompt in picking up their child(ren) after practices, games, and tournaments\*. Directions to away events will be posted prior to the event.
  - Support the coach(es) in the presence of their children. Undermining a coach's authority is harmful to the team and your child.
  - Coaches are not compensated for the time and effort they put into each season, so please take time to thank the coach for their hard work and dedication.

\*In the event of repeated pickups of 10 minutes or more past the end of practice time, the athlete will be sent to extended care for the parent to pick them up. The family will be charged for the time at extended care.

**Parents should AVOID these behaviors:**

1. Becoming overly involved as aggressive spectators or acting as “bleacher coaches” who choose to second-guess coaches’ decisions.
2. Blaming the coach for poor play or lack of performance by their student-athlete or the team
3. Parents are advised not to discuss concerns with the coach “in the heat of the moment,” but, rather, should wait (at least overnight) until emotions have cooled.

## **ROLE OF COACHES**

The coach is the “living curriculum” for the student athlete. Coaches at Grace Lutheran School are the most significant components of the athletic program. They are both teachers and active participants at the same time. They have the responsibility to model Christ-like behaviors and attitudes at all times.

In order to be an effective coach and role model, Grace Lutheran School coaches must also be thoroughly knowledgeable in their sport, capable of detailed preparation, able to motivate athletes, able to make adjustments during competition, and work effectively under the authority of the Athletics Leadership Team. Our coaches take seriously the opportunity they have to mold young lives for Christ.

### **Assigning Coaches**

Coaching assignments will be made annually by the Athletics Leadership Team, in consultation with the Principal. Serving as the previous year head coach will not automatically carry over into the next year.

At the end of each school year, parents will be sent an athletics and coaching interest survey for the following year. Choosing to participate in a sport on the interest survey will not commit the player to the team, it will only be used so that coaching needs and team makeup can be determined. If a parent wishes to be considered for coaching a team the following year, they must express interest in this survey.

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Coaches will be chosen based on the following qualities:

- A champion for every student
- Strong communication skills
- Highly organized
- Knowledge of the sport
- Ability to facilitate effective conflict resolution
- Willingness to integrate spirituality into every aspect of the team

Head coaching decisions will be made first followed by assistant coaches. This allows for input from the head coach if appropriate. The goal is for all coaching offers to be made and accepted prior to July 1.

Coaches will be required to sign a coaching contract which includes requirements and expectations for being a coach at Grace Lutheran School, including a mandatory background check and mandatory Ministry Safe training.

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## Grace Athletics Code of Conduct

### As a STUDENT ATHLETE...

- I agree that by my actions I am an ambassador for Christ. My behavior on the court, at school, at home, and in the stands will reflect this regardless of how anyone else tries to influence me.
- I agree to come to practice and games **ON TIME**, and with the **PROPER ATTIRE**. If I'm unable to attend my practice or game, I, or my parent(s) will contact my coach, **well in advance**, to excuse my absence.
- I will display a positive attitude in school and will follow school and classroom rules and be respectful to all of my teachers, as I know **my Christian Education is my first priority at Grace Lutheran**.
- I will be respectful to teammates, coaches, referees, teachers, opposing teams' players and coaches, and parents in the stands. I will abide by the decisions of the referees, officials, and coaches. This includes the language that comes out of my mouth, as well as the tone in which I speak to others.
- I will exercise self-control at all times, setting an example for others to follow and encourage teammates at all times and maintain a positive attitude.
- I will be responsible for the care and cleaning of my uniform(s) and will hand in all uniforms to the school office promptly after the last game of each season.
- I will discuss any conflicts or possible conflicts (pertaining to non-Grace teams/groups) with my coach.
- Participation in the athletic program at Grace Lutheran is entirely voluntary and is a **privilege** that can be revoked at any time by administration. I understand that this privilege can be taken from me due to repeated tardiness and/or absence from school, lack of effort academically, poor academic achievement (one F or one D cumulatively), disrespect in either athletics or in school, or for lack of sportsmanship during practice or competition.

### As a PARENT OF A GRACE STUDENT ATHLETE...

- As a Christian parent of the Student Athlete(s) named below, I understand the role that I play in my child's practices, games, and the overall objective of being a good team member. I will support my child by providing transportation to and from games, practices, and tournaments. I will be a positive encourager to coaches, officials, other players, and my own son/daughter during the athletic season. As a representative of Grace I will show appreciation for outstanding play for student athletes on either team.
  - I plan to attend as many games as possible, **cheering in a positive Christian manner, while promoting positive Christian sportsmanship in public and in any discussions at home**. I will respect all officials, coaches and players at all times through positive cheering and enthusiasm. **I understand that booing and disrespectful remarks to or about players, coaches, fans, or officials are unacceptable at all times**. By attending my son/daughter's athletic event, I understand that it is just as much a privilege for me to attend, as it is for my son/daughter to play and be a part of the team.
  - **By signing below, I understand that if I do not follow the expectations stated above, a Grace staff member, teacher, administrator, or pastor has the right to dismiss me**
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**from a sporting event because of my words and/or actions. Any further incidents may result in parents or fans being banned from all games/practices for the remainder of the given tournament or season.**

**As a Coach...**

- I hereby recognize that youth volunteer coaches serve a vital need in helping provide positive recreational activities for youth and further the Christian education they receive at Grace Lutheran.
- I understand that serving as a volunteer coach, every action I take and every word that comes out of my mouth is an example for the youth I am coaching.
- I will strive to uphold a high set of ideals and standards in regards to sportsmanship, fair play, and the assisting youth in understanding the skills needed to play the above named sport(s).
- I agree to abide by all rules and procedures set forth by the Grace Lutheran School, including:
  - Promoting a Christ-centered atmosphere in practices and games where every individual is treated with dignity and respect
  - Stressing the importance of Christian sportsmanship and fair play while teaching skill development and understanding of teamwork and the importance of being a good teammate. Wanting to win is O.K., but not at the expense of the ideals and fundamentals of the game.
  - Not using, or being under the influence of alcohol or using tobacco products while being associated with this program, including games, practices or league meetings.
  - Not using profanity, obscene gestures or comments, or abusive language to players, parents, officials, league administrators or any other persons associated with this program.
  - Striving to always be positive towards my players and treating each player fairly, realizing that each player has the right to have fun.

**As the Athletics Leadership Team...**

- We agree to be spiritual leaders to all involved in the athletics program - student athletes, coaches, and parents.
  - We agree to be honest, fair, and act with integrity in all our dealings, both on and off the job.
  - We agree to develop and maintain a comprehensive athletic program which seeks the highest development of all participants, and which respects the individual dignity of every athlete.
  - We agree to treat all individuals, including student-athletes, coaches, staff, and the public, with respect and courtesy, avoiding any form of discrimination or harassment.
  - We agree to prioritize the well-being of student-athletes, ensuring their safety, academic success, and overall development.
  - We agree to adhere to established procedures and protect the rights of student-athletes and their families in matters of discipline and other issues.
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- We agree to be knowledgeable about and comply with all relevant rules, regulations, and policies, including those of the school, conference, and other applicable organizations.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the handbook and code of conduct and will abide by the rules and guidelines set forth within.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Athlete Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Athletics Leadership Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletics Leadership Team Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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