

PROVIDENCE ACADEMY



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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Philosophy of Athletics

Providence Academy aims to teach fundamental physical development to our students to benefit them for the rest of their lives. We teach each student to take proper care of his/her body, the temple of the Holy Spirit; to exhort one another in times of trial; to complete tasks which are begun; and to cooperate with team members.

We at Providence Academy must never allow the athletics program to become The Program. Athletics is offered so that the student can learn to face tough circumstances with determination and to continue on even if victory seems impossible. We desire for our athletes to learn to persevere, lose with grace, and win with humility.

Finally, the athletics program at Providence Academy teaches self-sacrifice, self-discipline, and personal commitment to attain the goal of excellence. Its primary goal is to develop characteristics in students that will enable them to overcome challenges they will meet throughout their lives.

Providence Academy Athletic Policies

Administrator

The administrator has the authority to employ and terminate coaches with the approval of the school board, and the advice of the athletic director.

Athletic Director

The athletic director oversees the final scheduling of athletic events in the school year. In appropriate situations, the athletic director will assist in executing policy within the manual and from the administrator. It should be the goal of the athletic director to oversee each sport and prevent or resolve any problems that may occur during any athletic season. The athletic director should also produce a workable athletic schedule which complies with PA Board policy and supports the normal daily operations of the school.

Coach

The coach is responsible for the development of his or her team. The coach will take any dictated policy from the administrator or athletic director and execute it without dispute. It should be the goal of the coach to successfully develop his or her team, spiritually and physically, within the framework of a sound philosophy of the sport and to unite all players on the team. The coach should build up a student athlete using constructive criticism and encouragement, while avoiding berating and needless criticism. Furthermore, it should be the goal to develop the team from top to bottom as best as possible, leaving a relative consistency of team success from year to year. However, the playing time of each athlete will be determined strictly by the coach. The coach will delegate authority to assistant coaches, who are approved only by the administrator and athletic director. In addition, the coach will be ultimately responsible for the conduct of the assistant coaches. A coach should also be open to the suggestion of an assistant coach, administrator, and athletic director. The coach will be ready and willing to discuss any matter **in private** with anyone. However, a coach should be careful of being influenced by favoritism from parents or players, an action which may disturb or destroy team unity. A coach will not publicly criticize athletic policy; rather, the disagreement may be addressed in a private meeting.

Assistant Coach

The assistant coach is directly responsible to the head coach for any actions taken involving the team. The administrator and the athletic director will approve the appointing of assistant coaches by the head coach. The assistant may be called upon to act as head coach should the head coach not be able to lead the team (sickness, leave of absence, suspension, termination). Each assistant coach should aim to support the head coach in all phases of team leadership. Disagreements between the assistant coach and the head coach should not be made public, which could destroy team unity. Any major disagreement should be addressed in private.

Standards of Conduct for Volunteer Assistant Coaches

Luke 2:52 – “And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

The athletic program at Providence Academy is intended to help students increase in wisdom and stature so they will be able to overcome challenges throughout their lives. The following Standards of Conduct are given to Assistant Coaches as an aid to them in assisting Providence Academy in being faithful to its athletic philosophy.

1. In matters relating to athletic philosophy and policy, always submit to the Head Coach and/or Athletic Director. If you are ever unable to do so in good conscience, you are to do so until you have appealed the issue to the Administrator.
2. Never push athletics as “The Program” most critical at Providence Academy. Show interest in other school programs by attending some non-athletic activities or events.
3. Be an example of those traits we wish to build in our students:
 - a. Lose with grace
 - b. Win with humility
 - c. Exhibit self-sacrifice
 - d. Display self-discipline
 - e. Follow personal commitment to excellence
 - f. Persevere in tough circumstances
4. When interacting with opposing coaches and parents, return evil with good.
5. Allow the Head Coach to respond and handle disputes with game officials.
6. When problems arise with parents of students on the team, immediately involve the Head Coach and/or Athletic Director.
7. When coaching your son or daughter, beware of showing special treatment toward them or unfair high expectations of their performance.

As a Volunteer Assistant Coach at Providence Academy, you represent the school at every athletic event that your team participates in. Failure to conduct yourself in a manner consistent with the standards stated above will lead to your removal as a Volunteer Coach.

SPORTS PROGRAM OFFERINGS FOR 2011-12

Fall Season

Boys

Varsity Soccer (Grades 9-12)
Junior Varsity Soccer (Grades 6-9)
Cross Country (Grades 6-12)

Girls

Varsity Volleyball (Grades 9-12)
Junior Varsity Volleyball (9-10)
Freshman Volleyball (Grades 9)
Middle School Volleyball (Grades 6-8)
Cross Country (Grades 6-12)

Winter sports

Boys

Varsity Basketball (Grades 10-12)
Junior Varsity Basketball (Grades 9-10)
Freshman Basketball (Grades 8-9)
Middle School Basketball (Grades 6-8)

Girls

Varsity Basketball (Grades 10-12)
Junior Varsity Basketball (Grades 9-10)
Freshman Basketball (Grades 8-9)
Middle School Basketball (Grades 6-8)

Spring sports

Boys

Varsity Baseball (Grades 9-12)
Middle School Baseball (Grades 6-8)
Varsity Golf (Grades 9-12)
Middle School Golf (Grades 6-8)

Girls

Varsity Soccer (Grades 9-12)
Junior Varsity Soccer (Grades 6-8)
Varsity Golf (Grades 9-12)
Middle School Golf (Grades 6-8)

A WORD REGARDING BEHAVIOR AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

PA students are all aware of the standards set forth by the school but are oftentimes unaware of what we expect from them as spectators. Therefore, we have listed a few things to keep in mind when you attend a PA athletic event:

1. Do not criticize. Fans sometimes feel that they are able to do it better, but this is not their job. Support the players and coaches; **build them up – don't tear them down!**
2. As difficult as it may be, comments to officials and opposing teams should be positive. Do not make derogatory comments to athletes on the opposing team or officials. Officials may not always be right, but they are never wrong.
3. Realize that the word Christian means "Christ-like." We as Christians are always testimonies, whether good or bad. PA wants to portray a good testimony always, **but especially to the public and private schools we compete against!**
4. LONG AFTER THE SCORE IS FORGOTTEN, OUR BEHAVIOR AND REPUTATION ARE REMEMBERED.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

**Providence Academy
Athletic Coaching Staff
2011-2012**

Athletic Director: Martin Sells

Soccer:

Varsity Boys	Mike Cash
JV Boys	James Herington
Varsity Girls	James Herington
JV Girls	

Volleyball:

Varsity Girls	Angie Grizzle
Freshman and JV Girls	Rachael Little
Middle School Girls	Sherry Chambers and Lynne Little

Cross Country:

Varsity and Middle School	Ben Holland
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Basketball:

Varsity Boys	Martin Sells
Varsity Girls	Mike Cash
JV Boys	Chuck Owens
JV Girls	James Herington
Middle School Boys	Rusty Stover
Middle School Girls	Kitty Atkins and Mark Harrod

Baseball:

Varsity Boys	Martin Sells
Middle School Boys	Mike Cash

Golf:

Varsity/Middle School Boys & Girls	Angie Grizzle
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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND FEES

- A. **Each athlete must have a physical before each new school year.** The PA physical exam form can be found in the main office. The athlete cannot compete in camps, tryouts, practice, or games without a physical. One physical per school year takes care of all sports for that school year. Each April, Genesis Healthcare will be providing physicals for students in the 5th – 11th grades. The cost for this physical is \$15.00.
- B. Anyone interested in trying out for a team must be at the first practice of the season. The coach must be notified ahead of time if a student is going to miss the first practice for an excusable reason (illness, death in family, etc.).
- C. All students who participate in athletics will be charged an athletic participation fee. The purpose for this fee is to reduce the amount of money used from the general budget to cover athletic expenses. **The fee for varsity and junior varsity sports is \$75.00 per sport and the fee for middle school sports is \$60.00 per sport.**
- D. All families with children participating in athletics are required to support the athletic program by working the gate and the concession stand and helping with transportation to away games. This provides financial assistance to the athletic department in order to continually improve facilities and athletic equipment and to keep athletic fees to a minimum.
- E. Athletic fees are billed on your monthly statement and are due by the date stated on the invoice. Failure to do so may result in a loss of participation privileges. In the event of a financial difficulty, contact the bookkeeper to discuss other arrangements. Fees from one sports season must be paid before a student will be allowed to play the next sport.

GAME AND PRACTICE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Once you have joined a team, you have committed yourself to that team until the last game is completed.
- B. **Participation on the school team will take priority over playing for club/park and recreation teams. Personal choice by the athlete or family to give club/park and recreation team higher priority may reduce the athlete's game time with the school team.**
- C. Athletes must be at every practice or game unless excused for one of the following reasons:
 - Personal sickness.
 - Death in the family.
 - Previously scheduled commitment approved by the athletic director.
- D. Any athlete who misses a practice or game may have to make up practice activities and face the team's policy for reduction in playing time. This is not meant as punishment for an excusable

absence, but as a reward and incentive to those team members who were present. A team member who must miss a practice or game may return to their former status as soon as they have fulfilled the team's policy for absences.

- E. Each coach will announce his/her discipline procedure for missed practices or games. Multiple unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the team.
- F. All athletes must be on time to practices and games. Coaches will announce their discipline procedures for tardiness.

ATHLETE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- A. Every athlete is expected to maintain a good Christian testimony. At any time an athlete is not maintaining a Christian testimony on or off the field or in the classroom, he/she may be suspended or dismissed from the team.
- B. An athlete who receives a detention that forces him/her to miss practice must serve that detention. Coaches will discipline players who are late or miss practice for detentions.
- C. Athletes are expected to be examples of good conduct to other students. In that regard, when an athlete receives a suspension from school, the student will be suspended from his/her team during that period. Further action will be at the discretion of the principal.
- D. A suspended athlete may participate in tryouts for a team but may not actively participate in practice or games until he has served a probationary period.
- E. The use of profanity will not be tolerated. The use of profanity on or off the field may result in suspension from the team or loss of game time.
- F. Athletes are to be good representatives of Christ and Providence Academy on road trips. Failure to do so may result in suspension or dismissal from the team.
- G. Providence Academy does not condone and will not tolerate "hazing" or "initiations" of athletes by other athletes. Any such actions will result in suspension and/or dismissal from the athletic team.
- H. Any athlete or coach that is ejected from a game will be suspended for the next game. If the athlete or coach receives a second ejection, he will be suspended for two games. A third ejection will result in dismissal from the team and forfeiture of athletic privileges for the remainder of the school year.

RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICES AND GAMES

- A. All those involved in the athletic program must be in school by 11:00 a.m. each day to participate in a practice or game scheduled for that day. The only exception is a previously scheduled doctor or dentist appointment or a previously scheduled commitment approved by the administrator. If you are sick and do not attend school you can not attend the game scheduled on that day.
- B. An athlete must maintain a C average with no F's to be eligible to play.
- C. No athletes will be added to a team's roster after 50% of its regular season games have been completed.
- D. The administration is responsible for the determination of eligibility of students and communicating to coaches. The length and impact of the probation period will be at the discretion of the administration and accessed after two weeks.
- E. An athlete must abide by the following guidelines if placed on a probationary period:
 - 1. Before being reinstated to a team, an athlete on academic probation must obtain a grade verification form from the athletic director. The athlete is to give this form to his/her teachers and have the teachers fill in the grade and sign the form. The athlete is to acquire grades at the teacher's convenience. After all grades have been received, the athlete is to give the form to the athletic director for evaluation. If the proper improvements have been made, the athlete may return to the team at that time.
 - 2. An athlete on probation can **practice but will not be allowed to travel or dress out** for a game with the team while on probation. If an athlete travels on his own to an away game while on probation, he is to sit on the team bench in school attire.
 - 3. An athlete on probation is to attend all **HOME** games during his/her probationary period and sit on the team bench in school attire.
 - 4. These guidelines also apply to managers, statisticians, and scorekeepers.
 - 5. **Any violation of the probation guidelines may result in dismissal or suspension from the team.**

SELECTION OF TEAMS

- A. Each coach has the responsibility to select his/her team.
- B. Each coach will have try-outs to select team members.
- C. Final approval will come from the athletic director and the administrator.
- D. To provide proper training and appropriate playing time for each team member, there will be a limit to the number of athletes allowed on each team.

ATHLETE’S DRESS REQUIREMENT

- A. All athletes must meet the school dress code for modest dress at practice.
- B. The following chart summarizes dress code requirements for game days:

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>HOME GAMES</u>	<u>AWAY GAMES</u>	<u>TRAVEL TO & FROM</u>
Baseball	School attire	School attire	Uniform or school attire
Basketball (Boys)	Shirt and tie with khakis	Shirt and tie with khakis	Shirt and tie with khakis
Basketball (Girls)	Polo and khakis or dress shirt	Polo and khakis or dress shirt	Polo and khakis or team warm-ups with traveling t-shirt
Cross Country	School attire	School attire	Uniform or school attire
Golf	Golf shirt with khakis	Golf shirt with khakis	Golf shirt with khakis
Soccer (Boys)	Game jersey	Game jersey	Travel shirt and khakis or game uniform
Soccer (Girls)	School attire	School attire	Polo and khakis or game uniform
Volleyball	School attire	School attire or travel t-shirt	Polo and khakis, game uniform or travel t-shirt with warm-ups

****NOTE: THESE GUIDELINES APPLY TO ALL PLAYERS, MANAGERS, STATISTICIANS, AND SCOREKEEPERS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH TEAM. ****

QUITTING

- A. Character is not built by quitting. Trying times are not times to quit trying.
- B. A student may drop off the team anytime before the third practice without penalty. After that period of time **no student may quit the team without penalty. Any athlete who quits a team will not be allowed to join the team the following year.** There should be a strong sense of belonging to the team even when personal injuries would restrict the individual's participation in practices and games. An injured player is expected to be at all practices and games as if he/she were healthy.
- C. An athlete who quits will be removed from the team roster and forfeit any post-season rewards such as team pictures, letters, awards, etc.
- D. Exceptions to this rule would be for family hardships, severe injury, or serious academic problems. The athletic director and the principal will decide any exceptions.

TRANSPORTATION

- A. Directions to all the games can be found on our website.
- B. When playing local teams, such as Tri-Cities, Cedar View, Hampton, etc., athletes need to meet at the opposing school's location unless prior arrangements are made.
- C. When traveling outside the area, we will go as a team in vans, cars and/or the school bus. All team members will travel together. (No CD Players, Palm pilots, MP3's, I Pods, Pocket PC's, lap tops or headphones are allowed.)
- D. A team member may ride home from off-campus game with his/her parent(s) or legal guardian provided that the coach has been notified by written or verbal communication from the parent(s) or legal guardian prior to leaving the game.
- E. An athlete may ride home from an off-campus game with a friend's parent(s) if the athlete's parents have provided the school or coach with written or verbal communication from the parent(s) or legal guardian prior to leaving the game.
- F. Parents must turn in a copy of their driver's license and proof of insurance to the office before providing transportation for athletic events.
- G. If you are providing transportation from an away game for a student that must come back to the school you must travel with the designated authority of the school so that all parties arrive back at the school at the same time to meet the parents of the team members.

H. All exceptions to the above can be amended by the athletic director/administration.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- A. Any uniforms or equipment issued to an athlete are the athlete's responsibility to return in good shape.
- B. Lost or damaged equipment will be charged to the athlete.
- C. School uniforms are to be worn only for games, not for practices or other functions.
- D. **All uniforms and equipment must be returned to the coach or athletic director within one week after the last game of the season!**
- E. Any athlete who does not return uniforms and/or equipment will have his report card held and costs for replacement charged to his school bill. An athlete will not be allowed to participate in another sport until overdue uniforms, equipment, and fees have been turned in.

LETTERMEN AWARDS

- A. The school will have an athletic awards assembly at the conclusion of each season.
- B. **Varsity** athletes will be recognized for their efforts according to the following guidelines:
 - 1. To earn a varsity letter, an athlete must appear in at least half the games for that sport.
 - 2. Athletes who do not letter will receive a participation certificate for that sport.
 - 3. Managers, statisticians, and scorekeepers are also eligible for varsity letters.
- C. Certificates of participation are given to all junior varsity, freshman and middle sports athletes.

AWARDS

- A. Each varsity sport gives a minimum of three special awards.
- B. Each junior varsity, freshman and middle school sport give a minimum of one special award.

CHEERLEADING

Providence Academy does not offer, and does not intend to offer in the future, a cheerleading program. If you have questions regarding this decision (or any other decision related to the athletic program) feel free to contact the athletic director or school administrator.

MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Cleats are not to be worn in the building at any time. Proper athletic shoes must be worn in the gym at all times.
- B. Passes are sold at the beginning of the school year for admission to the games during the school year. An athletic pass will be sold for \$25.00, which entitles families to pay \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students at all athletic events for the entire year. The family pass will be sold for \$125.00 to PA families, \$25.00 to PA grandparents and \$40.00 for individual students. This entitles them to free admission to all the games for the entire school year. These passes also apply to tournaments held at Providence Academy.
- C. The athletic director and administration will decide any questions or issues not discussed in this handbook.

A WORD TO OUR PARENTS – How to Best Support Your Athlete

The best way to support your athlete is to provide encouragement and to be positive, both at home and in the stands. If you or your child has a question, please have your child talk to his/her coach. If a situation is not resolved or is of a serious nature, then call the coach yourself. If no solution can be reached at that point, then call the athletic director to set up a meeting with all parties involved. Know that you are the most important people in your child's life and that he/she wants you to be proud of him/her. Be in the stands, rain or shine, and cheer.

Suggested Standards of Conduct for Parents associated with “Providence Academy” teams in the Johnson City Recreation Leagues

The Administration and Board of Directors of Providence Academy do not claim any authority over teams that participate in the Johnson City Recreation leagues. However, we recognize that there are teams in the league that use the “Providence Academy” name, or uniform, or are obviously connected to “Providence Academy” because the team is dominated by Providence Academy students. If you, as parents, are involved in any way with such teams, the Administration and Board of Directors ask that you consider the following Standards of Conduct as you “represent” the school in the community.

1. Be an example of those traits we wish to build in our students:
 - a. Lose with grace
 - b. Win with humility
 - c. Exhibit self-sacrifice
 - d. Display self-discipline
 - e. Follow personal commitment to excellence
 - f. Persevere in tough circumstances
2. When interacting with opposing coaches and parents, return evil with good.
3. Do not make derogatory comments to players on the opposing team.
4. Show respect for the referees who are in positions of authority during the game.
No degrading comments, name calling, or confrontations after the game.
Referees may not always be right, but they are never wrong.

Thank you for your consideration of these Standards. Providence Academy is becoming well-known within our community at a very rapid pace. Our official athletic programs are expanding, and our young students are heavily involved in community sport programs as well as many other activities. Much of our future reputation will be built on what others see when our students, along with their parents present, compete against others in the community. It is important for all of us to remember that we represent Providence Academy and, more important, the Lord Jesus in whatever community activity we and our children choose to participate.

Jerry Williams, Administrator

Robert Smith, Board Chairman

This form must be returned to the main office before your child will be allowed to participate in his or her first athletic event of the school year.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Student's Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Parent's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone Number: home: _____ cell: _____

Another Person to Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone Number: _____

Insurance Name: _____

Policy and Group Number: _____

Physician: _____ Phone number: _____

Allergies: _____

Please initial by each statement:

- We have read the handbook and will abide by the rules stated in the handbook.
- I authorize qualified emergency medical professionals to examine and in the event of injury or serious illness, administer emergency care to the above named student. I understand every effort will be made to contact me to explain the nature of the problem prior to any involved treatment.
- In consideration for the opportunity to participate in the athletic program of Providence Academy, the Participant (or parent/guardian) acknowledges and accepts the risks of injury associated with participation in and transportation to and from athletic events. The Participant (or parent/guardian) accepts personal financial responsibility for any injury or other loss sustained during athletic events or during transportation to and from the events, as well as for any medical treatment rendered to the Participant that is authorized by the representatives of Providence Academy. Further, the Participant (or parent/guardian) releases and promises to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Providence Academy for any injury arising directly or indirectly out of the athletic events or transportation to and from the events.

Parent's signature

Date