

THE PURPOSE OF SPORTS AT DIVINE SAVIOR ACADEMY

In the book of Psalms, the Lord tells us, "I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139:14a)

The Lord also tells us in the book of Philippians, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13)

From these passages, we see that God has given us our bodies, senses, and abilities. Therefore, we should use these gifts to bring praise and glory to His name.

At Divine Savior Academy, we offer the students many ways to exercise their bodies as well as their minds in order that we all may glorify God.

The purpose and philosophy of the Divine Savior Academy athletic program is as follows:

1. To allow athletes the opportunity to work and play together with fellow young athletes.
2. To nurture God-pleasing habits, attitudes, and values in the athletes.
3. To equip our students with certain skills and knowledge of various sports that may be an asset to them in future interscholastic or recreational competition.

ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES

All athletes must remember their roles at Divine Savior Academy and be willing to follow them:

1. **Moral**-- All athletes represent Divine Savior Academy and will present themselves in a God-pleasing fashion.
2. **Student**-- All athletes must complete their schoolwork to the best of their God-given abilities.
3. **Athlete**-- All athletes will attend **every** practice and **every** game.

At the beginning of each season, the Athletic Director, along with the coaches, will be responsible for deciding which grades will be allowed to participate in which sport.

Before having the privilege to participate with a team, a student must have the completed permission slip and be in good academic standing.

GENERAL SPORTS INFORMATION

Every season a sports calendar will be sent home with the athletes. Please take the time to look at it, and post it in a high profile spot. A sports calendar will also be affixed to the bulletin board outside the gymnasium. Please understand that all schedules are subject to changes beyond our control.

Practices

All practices begin after school at 3:30 and will run until 4:30 or 5:00 (depending on the sports season and time of year). Athletes are required to attend all practices. If a

practice is missed, an athlete's playing time may be cut short since he/she was unable to learn the plays with his/her respective team. At the end of practice, athletes must be picked up within 10 minutes, or else be checked into after-school care.

Playing Time

Athletes must be in school to attend a practices or games. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in practice or play in a game if they are not in school during the day of that practice or game.

Competition is and will remain a part of our athletic programs. Because of this fact, playing time may vary among players. It is our intention to have every athlete receive quality playing time in every game, but this might not always be possible. This may be especially true in tournament situations.

Games

A schedule of games and game times will be announced at the beginning of each season when they have been finalized with the athletic league.

Athletic Attire

All athletes will wear appropriate clothing (in the eyes of the coaches and Athletic Director) to practices. Any athlete wearing inappropriate clothing may be dismissed from that practice. Repeated violations will result in the dismissal from the team.

All athletes will wear the entire required uniform to every game.

ATHLETE DISMISSAL

Students who do not maintain appropriate grades may be removed from the team at the teachers' discretion and consultation with the Athletic Director.

Currently, athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for sports.

If an athlete misses a practice or game, a signed note from his/her parents is necessary in order for that athlete to remain with the team.

Athlete's Code of Ethics

1. The athlete will serve to set positive examples with their words and actions both on and off the court or playing field.
2. The athlete will first meet all academic requirements of Divine Savior Academy, as defined in our school handbook, before having the privilege to participate in our programs.
3. Athletes must be respectful to our coaches, officials, and others in authority.
4. Athletes must treat all equipment and facilities with care and respect.
5. Athletes are to have NO involvement with tobacco, alcohol, or other controlled substance.

Guidelines for Parents

1. Please respect coaches and officials who willingly give of their time to assist the development of your children.
2. Encourage your children to have their priorities in order...student first, athlete second!
3. Be willing to volunteer.
4. If problems arise, please follow the proper lines of communication.

If you have any questions regarding this athletic handbook, please contact the DSA athletic director.

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God's blessings on your 2011-2012 athletic seasons!