



# **Bethel Christian Academy**

## ***Athletic Policies & Commitments***

### ***Code of Conduct • Permission • Acknowledgment***

#### **Parent Pledge**

As a parent/guardian, I understand that I serve as a role model for my child and others. I recognize that athletics is an extension of the classroom, providing opportunities to develop character, discipline, teamwork, and leadership.

I commit to:

- Treat all athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, and supporters with respect.
  - Participate in positive, encouraging, and uplifting cheers and support.
  - Honor opposing schools, teams, coaches, and fans with courtesy and respect.
  - Demonstrate and promote good sportsmanship at all times.
  - Allow coaches to fulfill their responsibilities without interference.
  - Support the athletic program through encouragement, cooperation, and involvement.
  - Encourage and celebrate the efforts of all student-athletes, not only my own child.
  - Display appropriate behavior before, during, and after all athletic events.
  - Help my student-athlete maintain a healthy balance between academics, faith, family, and athletics.
  - Keep athletics in proper perspective as one part of my child's overall spiritual, academic, social, and personal growth.
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#### **Student-Athlete Pledge**

As a student-athlete, I understand that participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. I recognize that my actions reflect on my school, my teammates, my family, and my faith.

I commit to:

- Represent Bethel Christian Academy with integrity, humility, and respect.
- Follow all school policies, athletic department guidelines, and team expectations.
- Respect coaches, teammates, officials, opponents, and spectators.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in both victory and defeat.
- Make academic achievement my highest priority.
- Avoid words or actions that bring dishonor to my team, school, or family.
- Arrive on time, prepared, and give my best effort in practices, games, and team activities.
- Accept responsibility for my actions and choices on and off the field or court.

- Live in a manner that reflects positively on Christ, my school, and my community.
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## **Attendance & Participation**

- Student-athletes must attend at least one-half of the school day to participate in practices or games unless prior approval is granted by the administration.
  - Student-athletes must be passing all academic subjects to be eligible for athletic competition.
  - Athletes are expected to attend all scheduled practices, games, meetings, and team activities.
  - Habitual tardiness, unexcused absences, or failure to meet team expectations may result in reduced playing time, suspension, or removal from the team at the discretion of the head coach and Athletic Director.
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## **Facilities, Fields, Uniforms & Equipment**

Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate good stewardship of all school property.

- Any damage to facilities or equipment must be reported immediately to the head coach or Athletic Director.
  - School facilities and athletic equipment must be treated with care and respect.
  - Following each home contest, athletes are responsible for assisting with gym setup, cleanup, and preparing facilities for the next school day.
  - Failure to fulfill cleanup responsibilities may result in team consequences determined by the coach.
  - Uniforms are the property of Bethel Christian Academy and must be properly cared for throughout the season.
  - Any lost, damaged, or unreturned uniform or equipment will result in a replacement fee charged to the student-athlete.
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## **Athletic Physicals & Health Insurance**

- Every student-athlete must submit a completed athletic physical examination form to the Athletic Director before participating in any practice, conditioning session, or competition.
- Any athlete restricted from participation because of illness or injury must provide written medical clearance from a licensed healthcare provider before returning to athletic participation.
- All student-athletes are required to maintain health insurance coverage.

- Bethel Christian Academy assumes no financial responsibility for medical expenses or injuries sustained while participating in athletic activities.
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## Team Selection (Cut Policy)

Some sports may require roster limitations.

The head coach, with the approval of the Athletic Director, has the authority to determine whether roster cuts are necessary.

Selection decisions will be based on:

- Attendance and commitment to team expectations
- Effort, attitude, and coachability
- Skill level and athletic ability
- Positional needs and overall team balance
- Ability to positively contribute to the team

Every athlete will receive a fair and honest evaluation during tryouts.

If an athlete is not selected, the decision will be communicated respectfully and privately whenever possible.

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## Dress Code

Student-athletes are expected to represent Bethel Christian Academy in a Christ-honoring manner through both their conduct and appearance.

Athletes must follow the school's dress code:

- While traveling to and from athletic events.
  - During all school-sponsored athletic activities.
  - At home and away contests unless otherwise directed by the coach.
  - **All visible tattoos must be completely covered during games, and other official team events.**
  - **For the safety of all participants, all jewelry and body piercings must be removed before practices and games. No earrings, nose rings, facial piercings, or other body jewelry may be worn during athletic participation.**
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## Playing Time

Participation on an athletic team does not guarantee equal playing time.

Playing time is determined solely by the head coach based on factors including:

- Attendance and punctuality
- Practice effort and preparation
- Attitude and sportsmanship
- Teamwork and coachability
- Skill development
- Game readiness
- Team strategy and competitive needs

Parents and student-athletes are expected to respect coaching decisions regarding playing time.

Questions or concerns should follow the **24-Hour Rule**, allowing at least 24 hours after a contest before requesting a meeting with the coach.

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## Travel Expectations

Student-athletes represent Christ and Bethel Christian Academy whenever they travel.

Unless otherwise approved:

- Athletes are expected to travel to athletic events with the team.
- Athletes may ride home with their parent or legal guardian after notifying the coach.
- Transportation with another adult requires prior written parent/guardian permission and coach approval.

While traveling:

- Follow all instructions from coaches and drivers.
  - Remain seated while the vehicle is moving.
  - Keep hands, feet, and objects inside the vehicle.
  - Maintain appropriate noise levels and respectful behavior.
  - No horseplay, roughhousing, or physical contact.
  - Respect all passengers and school property.
  - Help clean the bus or van before leaving.
  - Any intentional damage to school transportation will result in financial responsibility for repairs and may result in disciplinary action.
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## Locker Room Expectations

Student-athletes are expected to help maintain a clean, safe, and respectful locker room environment.

- **Clean up after each practice and game.**
  - Respect the privacy and property of teammates.
  - Store valuables securely. Bethel Christian Academy is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
  - Vandalism or intentional damage to locker room facilities will result in disciplinary action and financial responsibility for repairs.
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## Parent–Coach–Athlete Communication

*"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." — Romans 12:10*

Healthy communication strengthens our athletic program and honors Christ.

Parents, coaches, and student-athletes are expected to:

- Treat one another with kindness, patience, and respect.
- Assume positive intentions and communicate graciously.
- Address concerns privately and constructively.
- Follow the **24-Hour Rule** before discussing concerns after a contest.
- Schedule meetings through the coach or Athletic Director rather than approaching coaches before, during, or immediately after games.
- Work together to encourage student-athletes and support the mission of Bethel Christian Academy.

When concerns cannot be resolved through a coach-player conversation, a meeting may be scheduled involving the coach, Athletic Director, parent(s)/guardian(s), and student-athlete as appropriate.

Our shared goal is to develop Christ-like character, academic excellence, athletic growth, and healthy relationships while honoring God in all we do.

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## Permission & Final Acknowledgment

We have read and understand the **Bethel Christian Academy Athletic Policies** and agree to abide by the policies, expectations, and standards outlined within. We understand that participation in athletics is a privilege and that student-athletes are to represent Bethel Christian Academy with Christ-like character, integrity, respect, and good sportsmanship both on and off the field of play.

We understand that failure to comply with these policies may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from a team, as determined by the coach, Athletic Director, and school administration. By signing below, we acknowledge our commitment to support the mission and values of Bethel Christian Academy Athletics and to work together in fostering a positive, Christ-centered athletic program.

We understand that participation in athletics involves inherent risks, and we voluntarily accept those risks associated with athletic participation.

We agree to:

- Follow all athletic department rules, policies, and procedures.
  - Accept appropriate disciplinary action if this agreement is violated.
  - Support respectful and open communication among coaches, parents/guardians, and student-athletes.
  - Work together to promote a Christ-centered athletic environment marked by respect, integrity, and sportsmanship.
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## Signatures

**Student-Athlete Name (Printed):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sport(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student-Athlete Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the **Bethel Christian Academy Athletic Policies** with my student-athlete and agree to support and uphold the policies, expectations, and standards contained within.

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to uphold the expectations of Bethel Christian Academy Athletics and to administer these policies fairly and consistently.

**Head Coach:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_