

Peace Lutheran School Athletic Handbook 2022-2023



BEING A CHRISTIAN **ATHLETE** DOESN'T MEAN PRAYING FOR YOUR TEAM TO **WIN**. GOD DOESN'T GIVE AN EDGE TO THOSE WHO **PRAY** OVER THOSE WHO DON'T. HARD WORK DOES THAT. BEING A **CHRISTIAN** ATHLETE MEANS **COMPETING FOR CHRIST**, IN A WAY IN WHICH YOU ALWAYS GIVE YOUR ALL FOR **HIM**. WIN OR LOSE, YOU THANK HIM FOR THE **ABILITY AND OPPORTUNITY** TO PLAY. IT MEANS GIVING ALL THE **GLORY** TO GOD, NO MATTER THE OUTCOME.

PEACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

To the student athletes, parents and coaches,

This handbook is given to you as a guide for participation in our school athletic program. We are pleased to include you as a part of the program. We believe that athletics can be an important part of the student life at Peace Lutheran School. When God, home, school and sports are the order of priorities followed, a student is well on the way to a successful life.

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year with you. We know that we can count on your Christian support of our school, team, coaches, and program.

Philosophy

Peace Lutheran School recognizes that athletics has a very important role in the development of a child. Through athletics in the Lutheran School the student athlete has the ability to strengthen his/her faith in the knowledge of the Savior through athletic activities. Peace Lutheran School's athletic program is an extension of the overall school program. The aim is for the athletes to facilitate the goals of the school through sports activities. To develop the physical skills, the mental discipline, to build Christian character and sportsmanship, and spirit for good Christian living.

Participation in Peace Lutheran School's athletic program is granted to any student who shows by example a Christian character and demonstrates a skill in a given sport.

Goals of the Athletic Program

The goals of the athletic program at Peace Lutheran School are:

- To instill the priority that God is always first.
- To give God all praise and glory.
- To glorify God in all that is done on and off the playing field.
- To instill Christian character of our students, coaches, and spectators.
- To realize that certain rules are necessary and that student-athletes must abide by these rules.
- To learn the importance of cooperation and the need to respect the rights of others, to win or lose with good Christian sportsmanship.

- To improve the athlete's overall physical condition and skills for specific sports.
- To provide a positive athletic experience for each athlete and to encourage a lifelong enjoyment of sport and recreation.
- To prepare athletes for high school level athletics.

Athletic Participation Fee

Athletes are assessed a \$25 athletic participation fee for each sport for each player. This fee is assessed through Gradelink during each sports season in which a student participates. The fee is used to replenish sport equipment and uniforms.

Sports Activities Available

The following sports are available for students in grades 5-8:

Girls' Basketball
Boys' Basketball
Soccer
Girls' Volleyball
Track

Our league, North Suburban Lutheran Athletic Association (N.S.L.A.A.), permits 4th grader involvement per sport pending league and school need/approval.

Eligibility

Standards for Eligibility:

- Student cannot have a grade below 70% in any core subject.
- Student cannot have any outstanding incomplete work in any subject area.
- Student cannot be experiencing recurrent disciplinary problems.
- Student evaluation will take place before the start of each sport season and at mid-season. If a student athlete has been declared ineligible, he or she will be reevaluated weekly from that point.

During the first week of ineligibility, the student will be required to attend 45 minute supervised study sessions as scheduled. He or she will be allowed to practice during the first week of ineligibility, but will not be allowed to participate in

games or tournaments. If the student has not regained eligibility by the end of the first week, he or she will still be required to attend and observe practices/games or tournaments, however, will not be allowed to play during the second week of eligibility. These requirements will continue until the student is deemed eligible to play or subsequently terminated from the team by the discretion of the athletic director and the principal.

Parents have the right to expect and enforce higher standards for their child and can count on support of teachers and coaches in their decision. Students are encouraged to be in regular worship attendance. The principal will have the discretion to review and determine eligibility requirements after consideration of extenuating circumstances.

* Core Subjects include: Religion, Memory, Math, Literature and Reading, Language and English, Science, Social Studies, and Spelling.

Athletes are also expected to demonstrate Christian conduct and behavior in all classroom and school activities. Students serving a detention will be ineligible to participate in any athletic game or practice until that detention is terminated.

Medical Requirements

Each participating student is required to have a yearly doctor certified physical examination prior to participating in a sport at Peace. This complies with the by-laws and policies of the North Suburban Lutheran Athletic Association (N.S.L.A.A.) of which Peace is a member school.

Concussions

Concussions Peace Lutheran School, in compliance with the state of Michigan law on Concussion Awareness (Public Acts 342 and 343), requires that all students who participate in athletic activities (i.e. physical education class, sports teams, etc.) must be advised of the symptoms of a concussion. This law is also in place for all coaches and teachers that facilitate either a physical education class or coach a sports team. Peace Lutheran School will provide literature to all parents to share with their children prior to the start of the school year/sports season. The Acknowledgement Form must be reviewed by the parent, shared with their child, signed by both parent and child, and returned to the school. The Acknowledgement Forms will be kept, on file, in the Peace Lutheran School

office until each child reaches the age of 25. Students will not be permitted to participate in a physical education class or sports team until the Acknowledgement Form is signed and completed. For more information about this law or concussions you can visit: www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports

Playing Time

Peace is involved in a competitive interscholastic conference. Our teams are not recreational teams guaranteeing equal playing time. Playing time, which involves both games and valuable practices, is left to the discretion of the coaches and is determined by a variety of factors including attitude, work ethic, skill, and contest situation.

Absences

Before a student joins a Peace team, it is important that he/she makes a commitment to that team's practices and games. When an athlete makes a commitment to a team, he/she commits to attending all practices and games. Missing practices or parts of practice affects the team and a coach's practice plan and could drastically affect playing time. Inform the coach if an athlete will be missing a game or practice.

An athlete who is not in attendance at school for at least the second half of the school day due to sickness is not allowed to participate in any games played that day. The half-way point of the day is considered to be 12:00pm.

Any athlete that is not in attendance on a school day prior to an event scheduled on a non-school day is not allowed to participate in any games that occur before the next school day.

If an athlete is unable to participate in gym class during the school day he/she will be unable to participate in any games or practices that same day.

Transportation

It is the responsibility of the parents to drive their child to and from games and practices or to arrange a ride for their child. These arrangements need to be in place before school begins the day of the scheduled activity. Adults transporting athletes to and from games are expected to comply with the driver/vehicle/insurance requirements listed in the "Field Trip" section of the current Peace Lutheran School handbook.

Uniforms

Any uniforms that Peace provides for their athletic teams are to be kept neat and clean throughout the season. Uniforms should be washed in warm or cold water and should be air-dried. If any damage is done to the uniform, payment will be required on the part of the athlete. All uniforms must be turned in at the designated "turn-in time" in the same condition they were received pre-season.

Dress

Athletes are asked to dress appropriately for practice. Their dress should be modest and if there is printing, it should be in good taste. Girls are asked to wear shirts that have sleeves during practices.

Parental Role in the Development of the Student/Athlete

The parents of a student are the determining factor in a child becoming an athlete. Because we encourage all of our students to be Christians first, students second, and athletes third; the responsibilities of the parents are vital in the child becoming a total and complete athlete at Peace Lutheran School. Some of these responsibilities follow:

1. Teach your child the example of a Christian attitude toward all things.
2. Assist your child in establishing the proper priorities with respect to church, family, peers, study and play.
3. Encourage and participate in your child's growth as an athlete.
4. Support your child's commitment to his/her team and school.
5. Support your child's coach. When a parent competes with or criticizes a coach, especially in front of the athletes everyone suffers.
6. Make a commitment to help your athlete by attending sporting events and assisting in needed ways (running the clock, selling concessions, clean-up, etc.).
7. Become an active participant and supporter of Peace Boosters. All Booster activities positively affect our athletic teams. Volunteer your time!
8. Make sure your child is at all practices and games. Be prompt in transporting your child to and from all sport activities.
9. Teach your child to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying", and to be in constant pursuit of improving skills and attitudes. Make sure your child knows -win or lose- your love him/her and appreciate his/her efforts.

10. If you have a concern you need to voice, it should first be shared with the person whom it involves. If it cannot be resolved, it should then be brought to the Athletic Directors' attention.

Code of Conduct for Student/Athletes

It is a privilege to be a member of Peace Lutheran Athletic Team. Athletic talent is a gift from God, and using your talent is a way of giving glory to God. Success is not something that just happens. It requires hard work, cooperation, sacrifice, and self-discipline. Being an ambassador of Peace means carrying out a number of responsibilities. Some of these follow:

1. Demonstrate a Christian attitude at all times - on and off the playing field, at home and school, winning and losing.
2. Realize that you are representing the Lord – as well as his church, school, and team – and reflect this awareness in your conduct.
3. Win or lose, give thanks to the Lord for the opportunity to participate on the field of competition and to enjoy the Christian fellowship of athletes. To God be the Glory!
4. Treat coaches, opponents, teammates, and officials with respect. Be an encourager. Never tear down. Always build up.
5. Take care of your body spiritually, physically, and mentally. Remember it is a temple of the Holy Spirit and should be treated as such.
6. Strive for excellence in all you do. Realize the importance of giving 100% effort at all times - in practice as well as games.
7. Be a team player. Athletics is a great expression of unity. Think "we" rather than "me".
8. Honor your commitment you have made to your team. Maintain your grades, be punctual and prepared for all games and practices. Keep your parents informed of your schedule and any changes.
9. Do not use profanity or vulgarity at any time.
10. Recognize that whatever your role on a team — you are important. Whether you are the leading scorer or a substitute, you make important contributions. Carry out your role with pride.

Code of Conduct for Fans/Spectators

Remember that the spectator represents the school as much as the athletes and coaches do.

1. Be a positive example in words and actions to those around you so that everyone may enjoy the contest.

2. Attend the game to encourage and support the athletes. Be enthusiastic! Show your school spirit!
3. Show respect for the judgment of the officials by not questioning their calls. You don't always have to agree, but showing respect is a must.
4. Recognize and appreciate outstanding plays and efforts made by both teams.
5. Insist on the courteous treatment of the visiting team and its spectators. Show respect for the host school by honoring the rules and expectations it has.
6. Treat players from both teams with respect. They are highly impressionable children. Treat coaches with respect. They are dedicated volunteers, not highly paid professionals.
7. Remember that glorifying God and the good name of the school are far more valuable than any game won or lost by poor sportsmanship.

Peace Athletic Boosters

Who is a Booster? Alumni, church members and all parents whose child/children participate in athletics are Boosters! The purpose of the Athletic Boosters is to financially support the athletic programs at Peace Lutheran School. Boosters raise monies through the concession sales at home athletic contests, and other fund-raisers. The funds raised go to purchase equipment and uniforms as well as helping with team expenses for tournaments and officials. You are expected to volunteer at the home games during the season. Booster's success depends on the active involvement of parents. **Please be an involved parent and an active Booster!**

League Membership

Peace Lutheran School is presently a member of the North Suburban Lutheran Athletic Association (N.S.L.A.A.)

The following schools are members of the N.S.L.A.A.:

St. John, Rochester
Trinity, Clinton Township
Trinity, Utica
St. John, Fraser
St. Peter, Macomb
Our Shepherd, Birmingham
St. Peter, Eastpointe
Immanuel, Macomb

Peace, Shelby Township