

# Athletic Handbook



*Reviewed and Revised 2022*

## Greetings from the Athletic Department

Just as Trinity Lutheran School has a rich heritage as an academic institution, our school has also been blessed with an outstanding athletic tradition. Our challenge, to both parents and athletes, is that you use the opportunity athletics provides to glorify Christ and build each other up in our faith.

The foundation of our athletic program is not to win games at any and all costs. Instead, we strive to follow the attitude Jesus exemplified to his disciples and to the people he taught. When they asked the question, "How can we be great?" The answer is we must serve one another. We serve our teammates! We show service to our opponents, and to anyone we encounter as representatives of Trinity Lutheran School. A group of athletes dedicated, disciplined, and concerned about each other; having faith and trusting first in our Lord and also in our teammates is the foundation of our program. This is the attitude we follow.

We pray that our program will be a blessing to you. We hope that you will be actively involved by participating in our Athletic Association and by attending as many of your child's games as possible.

In His Service,

*The Athletic Department*

## Tri-County Lutheran League

Trinity Lutheran School is a proud member of the Tri-County Lutheran League of schools.

The Tri-County Lutheran League and Trinity Lutheran School would like to thank our athletes, coaches, referees, parents, and fans for exemplifying the highest standards of Christ-like behavior and sportsmanship. Christian sportsmanship gives our games an educational value that sets them apart and teaches values that last for a lifetime.

The Tri-County Lutheran League Handbook is available in the school office.

## Trinity Monitor Athletic Booster Club

As a parent/guardian of one of our athletes, you are automatically a member of our organization. The Booster Club's purpose is to "encourage, promote and help support" Trinity's teams and athletic program. In doing this, we find ourselves involved in a number of activities. Some of our major fundraisers consist of:

- Concession sales and entrance fees at home games
- Operate Cafe Trinity at Auburn Cornfest (July)
- Host a Chicken BBQ/Pig Roast the 2nd weekend of August

With the proceeds of our major fundraisers the Booster Club

Pays the referees for our games

- Pays all tournament entry fees
- Provides physical education and athletic equipment
- Purchases all team uniforms
- Purchase lawn mowers for the school grounds

- Maintains the school grounds
- Maintains the gymnasium and athletic fields
- And much more!

Sound like a lot? It is! Without a doubt, our athletic program relies heavily on its Booster Club. In turn, the Booster Club relies heavily on its members. Your time and talents make all of this possible.

We would like to say “Welcome to the Team!” We are looking forward to a year of fun and fellowship with each other as we work to support our athletes.

### **Philosophy of Athletics**

The athletic program at Trinity Lutheran School is an extracurricular part of the total learning experience offered to the students of Trinity. Through athletics, we aim to assist parents in developing their child into young Christian athletes. This is accomplished by teaching such principles as sportsmanship, teamwork, discipline, fair play and self-sacrifice. The atmosphere of the ethletic experience should be God-pleasing with athletes, coaches, and fans striving to be Christ-like in their actions.

### **Code of Ethics of Coaches**

Coaches are a role model for the type of person we want athletes to be. Specifically, Trinity Coaches:

1. Demonstrate maturity so that all actions, language, emotions and conduct will be respected.
2. Treat players and opponents with respect.
3. Inspire in athletes a love for the game and the desire to compete fairly.
4. Discipline those on the team who display unsportsmanlike behavior.
5. Respect the judgment and interpretation of the rules by the officials.
6. Nurture and guide the athlete so they can reach their full potential.
7. Build athletes up and never tear them down.

*Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.*

*Proverbs 27:17*

### **Code of Ethics for Parents**

In general, parents need to be supportive of their children’s efforts. Specifically, Trinity Parents are expected to:

1. Support their athlete’s commitment to the team by requiring their athlete attend all practices, games and tournaments.
2. Volunteer as much as possible. In order for our athletic program to be successful, volunteers are needed for home games, tournaments, transportation, and many other activities.
3. Receive authorization from the coach prior to attending practice for any sport
4. Contact the coach, not the school office, by telephone or written note any time their child will not be at a practice or a game. If this does not occur, the athlete’s absence will be considered unexcused.

5. Understand that athletes may receive disciplinary actions for being late, without equipment or shoes, or having an unexcused absence.
6. Be prompt in picking up your child(ren) after practices, games and tournaments. Many families are more than willing to assist in a needed situation or set up a carpool schedule.
7. Support the coach(es) in the presence of your children. Undermining a coach's authority is harmful to the team and your child.
8. If a person's actions in the stands become distracting to an athlete, the coach has the option to pull that child out of competition.
9. 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.

***Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.***

***Proverbs 22:6***

#### **Code of Ethics for Parents/Spectators**

Parents/spectators are an important part of the game and should at all times conform to accepted standards of good conduct and sportsmanship:

1. Respect all officials, coaches and players at all times.
2. Be enthusiastic. Positive cheering is encouraged.
3. Booing and disrespectful remarks are unacceptable at all times. If at any time disrespectful behavior becomes a distraction, those spectators may be asked to leave the event.
4. It is never acceptable to coach your child or other athletes from the stands. Coaching from the stands is a distraction and can cause confusion for the athletes. Leave the coaching to the coaches.

***Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.***

***Ephesians 4:29***

#### **Trinity Lutheran Athletes**

Participation in athletics at Trinity Lutheran School is a privilege and not a right. When an athlete behaves in a God-pleasing manner, he/she earns the privilege to participate. Each, by example, touches the lives of everyone from teammates and coaches to the spectators in the stands. By performing in any competition, a Trinity Lutheran athlete has the opportunity to allow God to shine through them. As a result, the athlete becomes a witness, for all those in attendance, to what the power of God can do.

***Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.***

***I John 3:18***

### **Code of Ethics for Athletes**

- Attend all practices and games, unless excused by coach
- (Parents) Purchase/acquire equipment such as shoes, knee pads, shin guards, etc.
- Hand in all uniforms to the school office promptly after the last game of each season
- (Parents) Be responsible for the care and cleaning of their uniform. Charges will be assessed for any uniforms not returned and/or damaged. Final report cards are held until uniforms are turned in and/or charges have been paid
- Treat opponents with respect
- Play hard, always within the rules
- Exercise self-control at all times, setting an example for others to follow
- Respect officials and their decisions
- Encourage teammates at all times, and maintain a positive attitude

We give God the glory for the abilities He has given to us, the success we achieve, and for our victories.

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Christ you are serving.*

*Colossians 3:23-24*

### **Who May Serve as a Coach or Assistant Coach**

A parent or relative of a current Trinity student may volunteer to be part of the coaching staff if the following criteria are met:

- Your child has been attending Trinity for 1 year or more
- It is best to serve as an assistant coach for at least 1 season before being the head coach
- Approval has been granted by the Athletic Department

### **Conflict Resolution**

If a conflict should arise during a sport season, whether between players, player/coach, partn/coach, or any two individuals, we here at Trinity Lutheran School will follow these guidelines from Matthew 18.

The following procedure will be used for all concerns and complaints:

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. (ie: student or athlete should contact the coach)
2. If the matter cannot be resolved informally at the initial level, the complainant should contact the Athletic Department and express the complaint, either verbally or in writing. After reviewing the steps taken by the complainant to solve this problem informally, the athletic department 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 will be communicated back to all parties, either verbally or in writing.

3. If the complainant feels the solution is not acceptable, the complainant should contact the school and set up a time to meet with a member of the athletic department and a member of the Board of Education.
4. The decision of the matter shall be communicated to all parties by the involved members of the Athletic Department and Board of Education.

### **Resolution Procedure**

**Player**

**Person** —--> **Coach** —--> **Athletic Department** —--> **Board of Education**

**Parent**

***Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.***

***Matthew 5:9***

### **Eligibility Policy**

Academic studies come before athletics. If a student works hard in the classroom, we feel they are also more likely to work hard as an athlete. Therefore, they are eligible to participate in all team gatherings. If a child does not meet academic requirements, they are ineligible to participate in any team gathering for the period of their ineligibility. This is done so that they may focus on their academics.

A child may become ineligible to play sports if he/she has 2 Ds or 1 F on in any class when grades are checked weekly. Grades are checked on Monday mornings after 9:00 a.m. Parents and coach of a student who is ineligible will be contacted before noon and the student will be ineligible for the period of 1 week. Students will be talked to privately by their homeroom teacher. Teachers and the principal have the final determination as to whether additional periods of grace should be granted to a student for extenuating circumstances. Students who are ineligible for 3 consecutive weeks will be removed from the team roster.

### **Paperwork**

Before an athlete can participate in any sporting event (practices or games), they must have a current physical on file with the school. Physicals are good for one year from the date completed by the doctor. Athletes and parents

Students and Parents must also sign the Athletic Code of Conduct each year which will cover all sports played during that school year.

### **Absentee Eligibility**

A student must be in school for half of the day to be eligible for that evening's sporting practice or sporting event. There may be special circumstances (out of town appointment, funeral, etc.) in which a

student may miss a majority of school on a given day. In these instances, please express your situation to the principal and a fair decision will be made.

**As part of the Tri-County Lutheran League**

Trinity Participates in

- Boys Soccer - Fall
- Girls Volleyball - Fall
- Girls Basketball - "A" & "B" - Winter
- Boys Basketball - "A" & "B" - Winter
- Boys & Girls Track - "A" & "B" - Spring
- Boys Volleyball Tournament - Spring
- Girls Soccer Tournament - Spring

**Schools in the Tri-County Lutheran League:**

Bethlehem, Saginaw 2777 Hermansau St., Saginaw	Peace, Saginaw 3161 Lawndale Rd. Saginaw	St. Paul, Saginaw 2745 W. Gennessee Ave, Saginaw
Christ the King, Sebewaing 612 E. Bay St., Sebewaing	St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth 140 Churchgrove, Frankenmuth	St. Peter, Hemlock 2440 N. Raucholz Rd., Hemlock
Faith, Bay City 3033 Wilder Road, Bay City	St. Michael's, Richville 9444 W. Saginaw Rd., Richville	Trinity, Reese 9858 North St., Reese
Holy Cross, Saginaw 610 Court St, Saginaw	St. Paul, Flint 402 Ballenger Hwy., Flint	<i>Valley Lutheran High School 3560 McCarty Road Saginaw</i>
Immanuel, Bay City 247 N. Lincoln, Bay City	St. Paul, Lapeer 90 Millville Rd., Lapeer	<i>Lutheran High, Northwest 1000 Bagley Rochester Hills</i>
Immanuel, Frankentrost 8220 Holland Road, Saginaw	St. Paul, Millington 4941 W. Center St., Millington	<i>Lutheran High, North 16825 24 Mile Road Macomb</i>

*The Athletic Department can be reached by sending a message through Fast Direct.*

*"Athletic Director" is one of the options in the "School Staff" drop down box.*