

West Coast Impact Athletic League

Athletic Handbook 2015-2016

West Coast Impact Athletic League

INTRODUCTION

Athletics can teach young people many lessons that can help them in their Christian lives. It is the goal of West Coast Impact Athletic League (WCIAL) that its athletes exemplify Christ-likeness in everything they do. The purpose of this handbook is to provide a way to maintain consistency so we can grow the home school league through the athletic program and to set forth the standards by which we expect our athletes and families to adhere.

We require that parents as well as athletes take time to read this handbook so you can properly support the league and help your student-athlete. Thanks for your support and cooperation in this matter.

Jodie Joslin, Athletic Director
Bill and Jodie Joslin, Administrators

Vision

To see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

Statement of faith

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

We Believe in God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and that they are distinct personalities with distinct roles, but one God. And that One God is the Creator of the universe. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

We Believe Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Savior, the Son of God who was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on a cross, and was raised from the grave. He will return as our victorious Lord. We Believe our salvation comes only through Jesus Christ and cannot be earned. It is a gift of God. (Romans 10:9)

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life; we further believe His power and gifts are available to believers today.

We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We hold to the truth that God uses His people as a means to bring the gospel to the world. Jesus commissioned us to make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:19-20).

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

It is the goal of West Coast Impact Athletic League that the athletic program be an integral part of the lives of as many students as possible. While it is impossible to serve the needs of every person, every athlete is encouraged to explore the capabilities God has given him through this sports program. The sports guidelines of WCIAL will be followed by all participants. All parents are expected to support the standards and goals of WCIAL for the overall athletic program and Christian league ministry.

Winning is important to the continuance of a solid athletic program. It is undeniable that winning teams tend to bring larger crowds and greater support. Winning, however, must be tempered by the basic beliefs of our Christian faith. First and foremost, it is the responsibility of all Christians to honor the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (Colossians 3:23). We can win games and tournament titles, but with the loss of our Christian testimony all becomes vain or worthless. The prevailing attitude among all those connected with the sports program at WCIAL should be – I want Christ to be seen in my life. Such an attitude will mold and shape Christian character from the inside to the outside. The following guidelines are designed to make the sports program spiritually profitable for each participant:

1. **Obedience** – Each player is expected to comply with the coaches and others that God has placed in authority over him. If a player has a question, he should not be afraid to ask for clarification. Openness and transparency of communication are vital to a successful program.
2. **Diligence** – Players should use all their strength and ability to complete each part of their task, whether it be cleaning up, doing drills, conditioning, competing in a game, or any other activity.
3. **Responsibility** – Each player should do everything that is expected whether being directly supervised or not. It is up to the athlete to be aware of his schedule (practices, games, etc.).

4. **Determination** – A player should make up his mind to accomplish all of God’s goals in His time, regardless of the opposition.
5. **Confidence** – Remember, as you give totally all you have to Jesus, you become a winner in God’s sight.
6. **Intensity** – Each player should give a “total release” performance at all times, focusing his attention on the job at hand, putting forth every effort to complete it to the best of their abilities.
7. **Perseverance** – A player should always do his best and try to win, as this is the object of competition. A player should also continue faithfully throughout the entire season. If one has done his best to honor God, there is nothing to regret.
8. **Grace & Humility** - An athlete should always be humble in winning and gracious in losing.

SPORTS PROGRAM OFFERINGS 2015-2016

BOYS

GIRLS

FALL SEASON

| | |
|--|---|
| Junior Varsity Volleyball (Grades 9-10) Varsity Volleyball (Grades 9-12) Cross Country (Grades 6-12) | Junior High Volleyball (Grades 6-8) Junior Varsity Volleyball (Grades 9-10) Varsity Volleyball (Grades 9-12) Cross Country (Grades 6-12) |
|--|---|

WINTER SEASON

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Basketball, ages 12-18 | Basketball, ages 12-18 |
|------------------------|------------------------|

SPRING SEASON

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Track & Field (Grades 6-12) | Track & Field (Grades 6-12) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

ONE TIME YEARLY EVENT

Impact Eco-Challenge
Outdoor Endurance Race

*more sports to be added as parents commit to coaching and starting programs such as basketball, track and field, golf, etc.

A WORD TO OUR FANS AND SPECTATORS

WCIAL parents and athletes are aware of the standards set forth by the organization, but oftentimes are unaware of what we expect from our spectators. Therefore, we have listed a few things to keep in mind when you attend a WCIAL athletic event.

1. Do not criticize. Support the players and coaches; build them up – don't tear them down!
2. Comments to officials and opposing teams should all be positive.
3. Realize that the word Christian means "Christ-like." We as Christians are always displaying a testimony whether good or bad. WCIAL wants to portray a good testimony, especially to others we compete against!
4. LONG AFTER THE SCORE IS FORGOTTEN, OUR BEHAVIOR, REPUTATION and CHARACTER IS REMEMBERED.

I. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

A. Each athlete must have a current physical, waiver of liability and signed handbook compliance form ***prior to*** practicing or playing on a WCIAL team. The athlete cannot compete in tryouts, practice, or games without the above documents. Payment in full or the first payment will also be due at the time of the first practice. Payments are then due by the 5th of each month.

B. If the athlete has a medical condition please inform the coaches immediately and remember to bring any necessary medications. There is a first aid kit available at all practices.

C. In order to make a season successful the parents of each athlete will be asked to participate where necessary. Assignments could include, but are not limited to gate, score keeping or clock, score book recording, snack bar, or line judging. Parents who are unable to work during their appointed time should make arrangements to have the position covered with other parents or responsible family members during their absence and then notify the person in charge of scheduling.

II. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEES

A. An athletic participation fee will be charged to help cover the season expenses. These fees may include, but are not limited to gym rental fees, insurance liability fees, tournament/entry fees and uniforms.

B. The athletic participation fee for each sport will be determined by the nature and involvement of that sport. (i.e., the cost of cross country will likely be different from the cost of volleyball as there are rental fees and equipment involved).

III. 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. This includes all practices and games.

B. Players must be at every practice or game unless excused for one of the following reasons:

- ◆ doctor/dental appointment (should try to work around practices)
- ◆ personal sickness
- ◆ death in the family
- ◆ previously scheduled church commitment
- ◆ “special” permission granted by head coach

C. Athletes will communicate directly with the coach per coach’s request of best means of communication via email, text, phone call or directly in person if that athlete will miss a game or practice.

D. Each coach will announce their consequences for missed practices or games. Multiple unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the team, but is left to coaching discretion.

E. All athletes must be on time to practices and games. Each coach will announce his discipline procedures for tardiness.

F. If practice attire is issued to a team, they should be worn to every practice; otherwise, athletic/PE attire is appropriate.

IV. ATHLETES' CODE OF CONDUCT

- A.** Every athlete is expected to maintain a good Christian testimony and conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner on and off the playing area.
- B.** Every athlete is expected to respect and follow the directions of the coaches.
- C.** Every athlete is expected to respect the officials.
- D.** Every athlete is expected to exhibit a sportsmanlike attitude at all times toward other players/opposing teams and teammates. The use of profanity, other off-color remarks or fighting will not be tolerated. Athletes are asked not to sing or "chant" anything that is a "put-down" or in any way derogatory to the opposing team. This type of behavior on or off the playing area will result in a suspension to be determined by the coach(es) and the WCIAL administrators and athletic director.
- E.** Every athlete is expected to play as part of a team and not for self.
- F.** Every athlete is expected to understand that you have joined the team to **LEARN** skills and concepts of that particular sport; you have not joined to have equal playing time. The coaches are committed to developing ALL players' skills and, although the coaches will do their best to make sure everyone plays/participates as much as they can, there is no guarantee of equal playing time.
- G.** Every athlete is expected to be respectful of facilities, equipment, and uniform care.
- H.** Every athlete is to be present and on time for all practices and games unless other arrangements have been made ahead of time and communicated with the coaches. (see Section III: Game and Practice Requirements).
- I.** Any permanent removal of a player from the game by an official due to an attitude or language will result in a one game suspension. The athletic director and administration may review and make final decisions regarding game suspensions.

V. ATHLETES' DRESS REQUIREMENTS

A. All athletes must meet the athletic dress code as it is stated by the coach and what is proper for the uniform of that sport.

B. Athletes are expected to wear warm-up clothing/practice clothing (T-shirts, shorts, warm-up pants, etc.) properly and modestly at all times. Clothing should not be worn inappropriately in an attempt to draw attention to the athlete.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICES AND GAMES

A. All those involved in the athletic program must be privately home schooled; that is one who is taught at home by his parents, grandparents, older sibling of at least 18 years of age, or legal guardian or in a charter school setting at least 51% of the time. *Please note, although we invite charter school students to join us, we are not a vendor and therefore do not take charter funds.

B. Athletic eligibility will be determined by the parent(s) of the athlete. In an effort to allow families to have the freedoms home education affords, we feel athlete participation based on grades and responsibilities at home should be determined by what is appropriate to the rules and needs for each individual family.

VII. QUITTING

A. Character is not built by quitting. Trying times are not times to quit trying.

B. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. (Phil. 4:13)

But none of these things move me, neither count my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. (Acts 20:24)

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, (Hebrews 12:1)

Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. (Hebrews 10:35)

VIII. A WORD TO OUR PARENTS (aka: Parent Code of Conduct)

In order to ensure the success of our athletes and the league we ask parents to:

A. Maintain good communication with the coaches and assist in enforcing the Student Athlete Code of Conduct

B. Ensure that your athlete attends practices and games on time.

C. Participate in fundraising events, attend games and volunteer when needed. Remember this is a co-op. Success of the team depends on your faithful participation.

D. Allow the coaches to coach. Don't coach from the sideline. Refrain from talking to the players during practices and games. The athletes need to concentrate on the task at hand and listen to the coaches.

E. Understand that coaching is not a science and that all coaches will have different approaches and make decisions that are popular and unpopular. However, believe that the coaches of WCIAL act in the best interest of the team and each and every athlete. You may not agree with every decision a coach makes, but please respect that decision.

F. To understand that you have joined the team to **LEARN** skills and concepts of that particular sport; you have not joined to have equal playing time. The coaches are committed to developing ALL players' skills and, although the coaches will do their best to make sure everyone plays/participates as much as they can, there is no guarantee of equal playing time.

G. Observe a 24 hour waiting period after a game before approaching a coach if there are any concerns, complaints, criticisms or suggestions. If there is a concern about what is happening during practices, games, etc. **please speak directly to the head coach, not another parent and not through text or email.**

H. Understand that although sometimes problems arise, we consider this league and any sports involved in this league a **no strife zone (aka "no drama")**. **Being the cause of strife or continuing to further discord among the team, parents, etc. is cause for dismissal from the team whether the strife comes from the player or the parent.** If you have a problem with the coaches or another parent please go directly to that coach or parent and work it out. Follow the biblical model of "going to your brother" (Matt. 18:15). If the problem persists please follow the hierarchy by first getting intervention help from the coach, then the athletic director and then the administrators.

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK COMPLIANCE FORM 2015-2016

This form is to be completed and returned ***before*** an athlete participates in his first sport (prior to or at the first practice).

I have read and understand the rules, regulations and guidelines set forth in this handbook. I do agree to abide by these rules, regulations and guidelines and will faithfully exemplify Christ-like behaviors, support the coaches, athletic director and administration of West Coast Impact Athletic League.

ATHLETE'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE(S): _____

SPORT(S): _____

