

CCS EAGLE ATHLETICS



**2020-2021
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

CCS Mission Statement:

Conway Christian School exists to partner with Christian families by offering a biblically-directed, college preparatory education focused on equipping students to serve and impact the world for Jesus Christ.

Philosophy:

CCS Athletics exists to not only support but to further the mission of the school. Student/Athletes are expected to compete, practice, and behave in a manner that pursues excellence while modeling Christ-like character. It is our goal that all coaches, student/athletes, and parents at all times conduct themselves in a way that is “worthy of our calling” and brings honor to God.

“ To be excellent is to be authentic and transparent, since true excellence lies in the treasure we contain, not the talents we display. An obsessive, compulsive striving after self-fulfillment or human acclaim cannot produce excellence. Only a passionate longing to glorify God and to realize his goals is consistent with the biblical concept of excellence.”

- Robert Foster

“Excellence must be pursued, it must be wooed with all of one’s might and every bit of effort that we have each day there’s a new encounter, each week is a new challenge.”

- Vince Lombardi

“Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives - choice, not chance, determines your destiny.”

-Aristotle

Conway Christian Athletics – Mission Statement

The athletic department of Conway Christian School seeks to use the area of physical training and competition to teach every athlete the disciplines needed to build excellence in Christian character, education, and leadership. – I

Timothy 4:8

Our mission for CCS athletics is simple. Through the experiences of competitive sports, CCS Athletics serves to equip our student-athletes with Godly character and a lasting desire to glorify God.

As a CCS parent or fan, you play an important role in helping to fulfill the mission of CCS Athletics Department. Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in raising your sons and daughters to be committed and compassionate Christ-followers. Athletics offers as unique opportunity for us as parents and fans to show the love and grace of Christ (1 Tim. 1:5) to others in the midst of intense, competitive and often emotional environment. Parents and fans can also assist the Athletics Department by joining the CCS Booster Club. The Booster Club provides many opportunities for you to get involved and serve.

GO EAGLES!

OVERVIEW

Athletics at CCS is designed to provide an opportunity for students to participate in championship-caliber sports in a God-honoring environment.

At Conway Christian School, we believe a robust athletics program is essential to an excellent education. Whether on the field or in the stands, our students benefit from the rich community and school spirit that sports provide.

With a total of 30 athletic teams, there is something for everyone on our campus.

An athletic program in a Christian school exists to guide the young people involved in a better understanding of their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Many circumstances arise in preparation for, during, and following athletic competition that offer opportunities for God's principles to be taught, applied, and shared. The goal of the Christian school athletic program is to seize these opportunities. Dedicated coaches serve to help young people relate the victories and defeats, the hard work, and teamwork to their daily walk with the Lord.

“Remember, results aren't the criteria for success- it's the effort made for achievement that is most important.”

- John Wooden

“It's not your business to succeed, but to do right; when you have done so, the rest lies with God.”

-CS Lewis

“Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way.”

- Booker T. Washington

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Goals

- Cultivate Christ-likeness in character
- Develop God-given talents
- Prepare students for positions of genuine leadership
- Provide opportunities for growth through healthy competition

Objectives

- Emphasize Godly characteristics
- Develop Self-discipline through athletic and academic excellence
- Witness for Christ
- Build a sense of self-worth in each athlete
- Develop a sense of integrity and fair play
- Understand submission to and respect for authority
- Foster respect for teammates and opposing team members
- Develop a sense of respect for one's own body
- Teach responsibility for uniforms and equipment

Basic Guidelines for Participation

1. Basic focus structure for each grade level: Although the goal for every team, regardless of grade level, is to help develop student/athletes physically, mentally, and spiritually; that looks a little different for each group.
 - a. 7th grade should be primarily a year focused on development and participation. The goal to compete remains, but development and participation for athletes is top priority.
 - b. 8th and 9th (JH) is a 50% split focus between competition and inclusive development. We strive for competitive success, but not at the detriment of individual development and involvement.
 - c. SH sports is primarily a competition based environment. We do not guarantee all players will play nor is it a goal. Although opportunities may present themselves, there is no focus on playing time for all athletes.
2. Practice: Team practices at Conway Christian will be determined by the respective coaching staff. Every effort will be made to conclude Wednesday practice by 5:30 PM. Every effort will be made to avoid practices on school holidays. There will not be practice on Sunday unless prior approval has been granted by the Athletic Director.
 - If it is necessary to be absent from practice, the student is expected to notify the head coach prior to the scheduled practice.
3. Games/Practices/Activities: In order to be eligible to participate in an activity, contest, or trip, the student athlete must be in school or on a school sponsored activity (field trip, off campus assignment, etc.) for at least 8 of the 15 available mods the day of the activity. Student athletes that are absent are not allowed to participate in school activities without advance approval from the Athletic Director or Principal.
 - Transportation: Students who ride school transportation to school events are to ride the bus on return trips unless the parent/guardian has personally notified the coach of different arrangements. Notes, texts, or emails are acceptable prior to departure from CCS. Students not riding the bus home will only be allowed to return with immediate family members or other specified adults. Students are not allowed to ride with other students. Students may be "signed out" at the event by their parent or immediate family member and therefore transferring responsibility to the parent or family member. On occasion,

parents may be asked to provide transportation to and from athletic events. In this case the parent must fill out a volunteer form with a background check obtained from the athletic office. On these occasions, the parent or guardian will assume all responsibility for their student athlete and/or anyone transported by them.

4. Completing a season: A student athlete who quits of his/her own accord will not be eligible to start practicing for another sport before the end of competition in the sport that was dropped. However, if both head coaches are in agreement and a release form is signed and returned to the Athletic Director's office, the student may be allowed to change sports.
5. Participation in Multiple Sports: Student Athletes may participate in two sports during the same season. The student is required to choose one primary sport, which will take precedence over the other activity in case of conflict. Games will take precedence over practice. Both coaches involved should notify the Athletic Director of the student athletes desire before the season in order to avoid and potential conflicts during simultaneous seasons.
6. Participation in Sequential Sports: Student Athletes that participate in sports that "overlap" at the beginning of one and the start of another are allowed to train for the following sport prior to the conclusion of the current sport with approval from both coaches and Athletic Director. The training should be relegated to standard "skills and drills". There should be NO COMPETITION or other activities that could affect the athlete's performance in the current sport. At the conclusion of a season an athlete may not report for participation in the subsequent season until all equipment has been turned in and all outstanding debts have been paid.
7. Parent/Coach Relationship: Parents are expected to show respect to coaches and school personnel as professionals. When a disagreement arises, the parent should talk to the coach involved directly (Mathew 18) at the appropriate time to resolve the problem. If the issue cannot be resolved, then the matter will go through the chain of command (Athletic Director then the Head of School). We ask that parents not confront a coach before, during, or after a contest. If a meeting with a coach is desired, this may be scheduled by calling the coach or Athletic Director. Parent conduct during games should be exemplary. Parents are expected to refrain from negative comments about officials, coaches, our student athletes, and opponents. Parents who abuse the expectations of proper behavior may be asked to leave the premises,

continued non-compliance will endanger the students eligibility to participate. All parents will receive an Expectations for Parents of Student Athlete handout at their respective team meeting.

8. Use of Facilities: All events or teams wishing to schedule use of facilities must contact the Athletic office which will confirm with campus operations space and availability. Anyone wishing to conduct camps or tournaments in the gym or athletic fields must receive permission from the athletic office and submit proper forms.
9. Off Season Program: Student athletes in Football, Volleyball, and Basketball will have scheduled off season workouts focusing primarily on strength and conditioning exercises.
10. Physicals: Every athlete is required to have a pre-participation physical examination. This physical is good for a one-year period. Athletes may not participate in athletic practices or competition until a signed (signed by the healthcare provider) is on file in the athletic office. An appropriate healthcare provider is considered a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. To date, Conway Regional has provided opportunities for physicals at no cost to families. This typically takes place in May. Student athletes are encouraged to take advantage of that opportunity. If not, the Athletics office would like you to request a form to take to your own healthcare provider.
11. Participation on non-school teams: By rule of the AAA (article 3, rule 12), a student may not participate on a school team and a non-school team in the same sport during the same season. Students who violate this rule will forfeit eligibility on the CCS team. While concurrent different sport participation is not prohibited it is not encouraged. Research and common sense show increased incidences of cross-sport injuries and fatigue-related issues that preclude such as being advisable. If a student/athlete chooses to participate in a concurrent sport despite the risks it is the expectation that all CCS practices and contests take precedence.

Communication

Clear and appropriate communication is a strong desire at CCS. At CCS we encourage students to participate in all aspects of student life made available to them. It is an expectation that students communicate all potential conflicts to coaches prior to the event. It is also an expectation that coaches communicate clearly all information to parents that they need. This communication takes place in the 4 main ways:

1. Pre Season parent meeting

2. Weekly emails or notifications via communication apps
3. Eagles Ledge sent out weekly
4. CCS Athletics web page on website www.conwaychristianschool.org

NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse

The NCAA has three membership divisions- Division I, Division II, and Division III. Institutions are members of one or another division according to the size and scope of their athletic programs and whether they provide athletic scholarships.

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse was established as a separate organization by the NCAA member institutions in January 1993. The Clearinghouse ensures consistent interpretation of NCAA initial eligibility requirements for all prospective student-athletes at all member institutions.

All parents and student athletes wishing to pursue athletics at the collegiate level are strongly advised to log into the websites listed below from complete instructions on the application and clearinghouse procedures.

- www.ncaa.org
- www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

GO EAGLES!



