

Athletic Handbook



Table of Contents

Mission

Non-classroom Activities

Athletics

The Warrior

Academic Eligibility

School Behavior

Attendance

Practice Attendance

Dismissal

Transportation

Sportsmanship

Communication

Dress Code

Multiple Sport Athletes

Cell Phones and Earbuds

Other Duties

Mission

Athletics gives us an opportunity to excel in representing Jesus in every area of life. As Warriors, we are committed to using our athletic abilities to glorify God and our school well. “And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father” (Colossians 3:17 NLT).

Non-classroom Activities

All students who want to participate in non-classroom activities (often referred to as "extra-curricular") must maintain acceptable grades, demonstrate an acceptable effort, and exhibit a positive attitude in their school obligations. Classroom teachers will evaluate grades, effort, and attitude on a weekly basis. If any classroom teacher indicates that a student has not met his/her obligations, that student may not be eligible for participation in any non-classroom activities for the following week. This policy includes all activities outside the classroom. Specifically regarding athletics, student participation is governed by the constitution and by-laws of the PIAA. We cannot field students who do not meet the minimum standards set forth by the PIAA. If, at the end of a week of ineligibility, such obligations are evaluated positively, the student may resume participation.

Athletics

The Dayspring Athletic Program recognizes the Word of God as its foundation. Each sport is offered with the goal of building the character of Christ within each athlete. Athletic competition affords students the opportunity to demonstrate the depth of their understanding of God's principles and truths and reveal the quality of character within themselves as Christian athletes. The athletic field is simply viewed as another classroom, but one in which the Biblical principles learned in the classroom are put to the test in each student during competition. Dayspring is part of the Commonwealth Christian Athletic Conference and currently offers a program suited to the interests of the students with an emphasis on team sports. Sports are offered only if there are enough students to field teams. As the school expands and grows, so, too, will the athletic program. Parents are an integral part of the athletic program at Dayspring.

The Warrior

Noah Webster tells us in his 1828 dictionary that a warrior is a brave man and a good soldier. At Dayspring, we view ourselves as prayer warriors in the army of God. We want to instill in our students and athletes the idea of being brave in the midst of the

battle. Our forefathers were men of bravery. They were warriors who were not afraid to get down on their knees and seek the divine providence of God in the midst of their battles. It was for this purpose that the symbol of a warrior was chosen to represent the Dayspring Christian Academy student and athlete.

Academic Eligibility

Students must not have any academic grade below a D. Academic eligibility is reviewed weekly. The student and parents/guardians will be notified via email that the student has one week called a “buffer week” to rectify the failing grade. If the grade is not rectified after the “buffer week”, then the student is ineligible for the following week. If a student is only taking four full time credit courses, then the “buffer week” does not apply.

School Behavior

If a student receives a disciplinary referral, the student cannot participate in practices or contests at the discretion of the Upper School Principal. If a student receives an in-school suspension (ISS), the student cannot participate in practices or contests on the days of the ISS and cannot participate in the next contest at the discretion of the Upper School Principal. If a student receives an out-of-school suspension (OSS), the student cannot participate in practices or contests on the days of the OSS and cannot participate in the next week’s practices or contests at the discretion of the Upper School Principal.

Attendance

A student must arrive at school by 11:30 am to participate in that day’s contest. If a student is sent home for illness, the student may not participate in that day’s practice or contest.

Practice Attendance

Parents must communicate with coach via SportsYou if student is not attending practice. Failure to attend practices may affect playing time/participation.

Dismissal

Students may not stay after school past 3:15 pm unless a coach/teacher is supervising or they are attending the Athletics Study Hall. Students staying for the Athletics Study Hall may not leave and return to school and must be in the Athletic Study Hall by 3:15 pm. Students in Athletics Study Hall may not carpool with other students. Students not staying for Athletics Study Hall will not be allowed to reenter the school.

Transportation

Transportation to home contests and practices:

Students may not carpool with other students if the school provided transportation is leaving at or prior to 3:15 pm.

Transportation to and from away contests:

Parents must communicate with coach via SportsYou if student is not using school transportation to away contests. Parents must communicate with coach if student is not using school transportation from away contests.

Sportsmanship

If a student receives a yellow card/technical foul or that sport's equivalent of a "flagrant action", the student must meet with the Athletic Director (AD) and a redemption plan will be determined. The student will be suspended for one game unless determined otherwise by the AD and/or Upper School Principal. If a student is ejected from a contest, the student must meet with the AD and a redemption plan will be determined. The student will serve a two-game suspension unless determined otherwise by the AD and/or Upper School Principal.

Communication

Students and/or families are expected to communicate any player/team concerns directly with coach prior to communicating with AD, Upper School Principal, and Headmaster.

Dress Code

On days of contests, students may wear tucked in Dayspring uniform, team jersey (with undershirt if needed for modesty), RJW shirt, and/or current team warmup/jacket at school. Students must wear Dayspring uniform pants/skirt and approved footwear. Students should arrive at contests wearing team jersey, RJW shirt, and/or current team warmup/jacket. Students must wear uniform shorts, school provided warmups, or black sweatpants (team should match).

Multiple Sport Athletes

If a student chooses to participate in multiple sports during the same season, the AD/coaches will set a practice/contest schedule for the student to follow. Students may not participate in open gyms for out-of-season sports if they are currently participating in an in-season sport.

Cell Phones and Earbuds

Cell phones and earbuds must remain turned off and in the student's bag during practices, contests, and transportation to and from events. Coaches may grant permission for a student to use a cell phone in the coach's presence. Coaches may confiscate cell phones and earbuds if being used without permission and will return to student or parent that day.

Other Duties

Students should be willing to accept other assigned duties if asked. These duties may include: keeping statistics, managing equipment, collecting admissions, operating the camera, etc.