

Athletic Handbook

I. PHILOSOPHY

1 Corinthians 10:31, "...whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

The athletic program of Heartland Christian School is an integral part of our Christian education program. Our primary goal is to uphold the reputation of Jesus Christ. We want to provide a quality athletic program in a Christian atmosphere.

General Goals:

- ◆ To reflect Jesus Christ in all areas of participation. (Colossians 3:17)
- ◆ To present one's abilities to the Lord as if He were the only spectator. (Romans 12:1-2)
- ◆ To assist each individual in achieving his or her maximum potential in the development of a strong, healthy body and an alert mind.
- ◆ To place the great emphasis upon instilling the "will to win" rather than a "win at any cost" concept.
- ◆ To display good sportsmanship and conduct in winning or losing.
- ◆ To have a well-rounded program in which every student will have an opportunity to participate.
- ◆ To keep the fun in athletics.
- ◆ To have fellowship with other schools.
- ◆ To teach students how to mutually respect one another's gifts, abilities and talents.
- ◆ To prepare students for adult life by teaching and instilling discipline, responsibility and character.
- ◆ To always maintain team unity by developing a responsibility to the team and the role and value of each member to the overall success and accomplishment of the team.

II. ATHLETIC FEE

The athletic fee for each HCS student who desires to participate in the sports program at **Error! Bookmark not defined.** is \$100 per student per sport or

non-HCS student fees are \$125.00 per student, per sport. All fees must be paid in full before uniforms will be issued. If you are unable to pay the fee prior to receiving your uniform please see the AD. This fee helps cover the

cost of team uniforms, gym rental, catastrophic insurance, league and tournament entry fees. *It does not cover the cost of transportation to away games.*

III. SPECTATORS

We hope and expect that all spectators would fully support the athletic philosophy of HCS. Therefore, we trust that they will always respond in an encouraging, supportive way, which will bring glory to God rather than hinder the cause of Christ.

IV. PHYSICALS

Each player must have a physical examination on record in the school office before he or she will be permitted to participate in practices or games.

- V. Each coach will provide information concerning the particular procedures for his or her sport. Games and practices will be on a scheduled basis allowing for continuity in training and family arrangements.

Commitment is of utmost importance, especially in the area of team practices. Therefore, each player is required to attend **ALL** practices and games.

An athlete will not be able to participate in any practice or game if he or she is absent from school the last half of the school day of the event. With the exception of a scheduled appointment.

VI. ELIGIBILITY

As stated earlier, athletics is considered an integral part of our curriculum. However, participation must never pre-empt or detract from the total learning experience. Each student must give priority to Godly attitudes and living rather than to mere physical achievement. We see in Psalm 147:10-11 that physical achievement has little significance to the Lord. "He takes pleasure in those that fear Him, who put their hope in his unflinching love." Therefore, if a student demonstrates through attitude or behavior any noncompliance with the athletic philosophy or school code of conduct, he or she can be declared ineligible for a specified time.

Also, if a student's academic performance falls below a combined average grade of "C" for all major academic subjects, or if a student is failing any course, he will be declared ineligible from games for a period of one week. (A student not able to maintain a "C" average although he is working up to his potential may be declared eligible at the discretion of the administrator) Determination will be made on Monday morning and will take effect that day through the following Saturday. Grades must be submitted at the end of school on Fridays. Those dates will be listed on the school schedule. Two consecutive periods of ineligibility will result in removal from games and practices for one week. If eligibility is not regained by the third one-week period, he or she will be removed the team for the season.

VII. TRANSPORTATION

The athletic director or school office personnel will organize transportation to and from games. All players will be organized in vehicles by the office or coaches. If space permits other students may ride with the team on a first come, first serve basis. A small charge will be assessed to non-team members. All students will be asked to buy a ticket from the athletic director or the school secretary on the day of the game. The travel distance to the away game will determine the price of the ticket. All team members and coaches will be required to use school transportation to the game. Anyone wishing to ride home with his or her own parents may do so only after informing athletic director or his or her coach. Anyone wishing to ride home with someone other than his or her own parents must have written permission from his or her own parents.

Students will be assigned seating while traveling to games. Boys and girls will be separated by front and back of the vehicles (if boys and girls must travel together). Students must turn in cell phones to their coach before traveling to the games. Cell phones will be handed back out to students when we are close to home to let parents know how much time until they arrive at HCS.

VIII. FOOD

The distance of most away games is too great to go without food until the players return home. Therefore, proper arrangements will be made in advance of such games and parents will be notified as to how to make provisions for a meal for their son or daughter. If a stop at a fast-food

restaurant is planned, parents may overrule that decision and send along a sack lunch at their own discretion.

IX. DRESS

Our desire is to look sharp in order to be a proper reflection of the Lord. Male players will wear a dress shirt, dress pants, and dress shoes. Female players will wear a dress, skirt and blouse, or dress slacks and blouse. Players are to wear the attire above unless the coach assigns a different dress for that particular game day. All dress must be in line with the student handbook dress code.

The above regulations will be adhered to on the day of a game while at school and in route to the game. Casual dress may be worn after the game on the trip home.

Practice Dress:

No half shirts will be allowed and shirts must have a sleeve. The short length must be no more than 5" above the top of the knee. No undergarments can be showing.

X. ATHLETIC AWARDS

A. HEARTland Award

Athlete who best exemplifies Christ with his actions, conduct, and attitude in games and practices and in his daily life. This athlete is the team's representative for this award. It includes performance but their relationship with and their living for the Lord is the primary consideration.

B. Most Inspirational

Presented to the player whose attitude, hard work, enthusiasm and encouragement, caused other players to want to do a good job. This is a player that has a positive attitude and did everything he could to be an encouragement and help to his teammates.

C. Character Award

Given at the coach's discretion to the athlete or athletes that have displayed specific character qualities throughout the season. This will include qualities such as dependability, initiative, endurance, humility, diligence, joyfulness, etc.