

FBCS
ATHLETICS
HANDBOOK



This handbook is designed to guide athletes, parents, coaches, and fans through the details of the FBCS Athletic Program. Coaches, parents, athletes, and administrators are also responsible for information that is included in the FBCS Parent Student Handbook.

Refer to this handbook often. Its purpose is to provide information for parents and athletes throughout their athletic career at FBCS.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

First Baptist Christian School (FBCS) athletic programs strive to provide a setting for our student-athletes to develop and display **Christlike character, sportsmanship, cooperation, and strong bodies for the Lord.**

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

First Baptist Christian School purposes to help meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of young people through the provision of a variety of athletic programs. Well-organized and managed athletic programs convey many biblical principles taught by the Lord Jesus. Unity, putting others first, stewardship, commitment, self-control, and respect for authority are only a few principles that characterize individuals who are working together to build a team that honors the Lord. Those who are involved with a desire and commitment to honor the Lord will immeasurably gain from the opportunities provided through specific athletic programs.

ATHLETIC GOALS AND COMMENTS

The process and programs provided for achieving our purposes are filled with many unique opportunities. The FBCS athletic program strives to help provide athletes, coaches, parents, and fans with five distinct opportunities:

1. The opportunity to *honor* and *glorify* the Lord in everything we do, including athletic performance
2. The opportunity to *disciple* each other toward greater perfection in Christ
3. The opportunity to develop *skills* in areas of physical and athletic competency
4. The opportunity to use the talents and time God has given as a *witness* to others
5. The opportunity to *support* and *enjoy* the collective efforts of teams that focus on honoring the Lord Jesus Christ

It is God who desires to take all of these components and weave them together in ways that honor His Son. He uses the athlete's desire to compete, the fan's supportive enthusiasm, and our response to the rules of the game as opportunities for us to witness to an unbelieving world and, on occasion, even to fellow believers. How we respond to the circumstances that challenge us at any given time is of great interest to God.

Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, set the standard:

"Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ..." (Phil. 1:27).

*"Therefore, whether you eat or drink,
or whatever you do, do all to the
glory of God.
1 Cor. 10:31*

Dr. Paul A. Kienel in his article *"It's Only a Game,"* sums up much of our philosophy regarding athletics at FBCS:

"Athletics are certainly not worth doing if they damage the testimony of the school. Players, coaches, and spectators must remember that when our opponents and their fans are Christians, they are our brothers and sisters in the Lord, and they should be treated as such. When our opponents and their fans are not Christians, they need to know our Savior, and our testimony for the Lord becomes all the more important.

The athletic philosophy of our school flows naturally out of our educational philosophy. Therefore, the primary goal of our athletic program is to bring glory to God through encouraging our teams to perform to the best of the ability the Lord has given them.

There are a number of goals based on biblical principles which flow naturally out of this primary goal. First of all, we want to teach respect for authority. Players need to respect coaches, while coaches, players, and fans need to respect officials. Second, we want to teach the principle of putting aside individual desires and goals for the good of the team. Third, we want to teach players to realize that often their true character will come out in the heat of competition, and that there are valuable lessons to be learned and adjustments to be made."

*"Nothing will
work unless
you do."*

Coach John Wooden

I. SPORTSMANSHIP

Athletes, coaches, fans, and parents at First Baptist Christian School are expected to display an attitude of Christlikeness before, during, and after athletic contests. This includes attitudes toward our own team members, coaches, opposing teams, fans, and officials.

ATHLETES We believe all FBCS athletes should be diligent in preparation, relentless in effort, disciplined by nature, respectful in actions, self-controlled in speech, humble in spirit, and aggressive in the pursuit of excellence without regard to the score, opponent, time, or official. As Christian athletes display these characteristics, good things usually happen. Teams are successful, players are motivated, fans are supportive and enthusiastic, parents are proud, prospective athletes want to participate, and, hopefully, non-believers are drawn to Christ.

FBCS COACHES Because of our commitment to excellence, coaches at FBCS are one of the most significant components of our athletic program. They have the responsibility to model Christlike attitudes and behavior for our student athletes and parents while under pressure themselves. They are participants and mentors at the same time. One of the most pivotal roles of the coach is to develop athletes who reveal Christlike behavior while under competitive pressures. Coaches have great responsibilities and great opportunities to mold young lives for Christ. Any coach receiving an unsportsmanlike penalty (technical foul, yellow or red card) will be required to meet with the Athletic Director following the first offense and with the athletic director and FBCS Administrator for any subsequent offenses. Any coach with repeat offenses may be subject to suspension or dismissal.

FBCS PARENTS AND FANS Fans are an integral part of all athletic events. They serve to validate the positive values learned through athletics and to support the efforts and successes of FBCS teams and athletes. It is *required* that fans refrain from negative comments toward officials, coaches, or players involved in a contest. All parents should be proud and positive supporters of their student athletes. Likewise, athletes should be proud of their parents' behavior as spectators and level of involvement. Positive encouragement offered to support both the athlete and his/her team will contribute toward them reaching their fullest potential.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON RELATIONSHIPS

Being a parent is certainly a challenging endeavor. The effort and responsibility of parenthood is frequently complicated by being a parent of an athlete. The best way to help your student athlete is to provide encouragement and to be positive, both at home and in the stands. If there is a problem, have your child talk to his/her coach. If the problem is not resolved or if it is of a serious nature, then call the coach yourself. If no solution can be reached at that point, then call the athletic director to set up a meeting with all parties involved. Know that you are the most important person in your child's life, and that he/she wants you to be proud of him/her. Be in the stands, rain or shine, and cheer. This part of the handbook, with its guidelines and suggestions, will give you some insights into this responsibility.

The Parent-Player-Coach Relationship: The player-coach relationship is perhaps the most critical relationship in athletics. Without question, a parent can have a profound effect on this very important and delicate relationship. While you may not agree with all decisions of a coach, how and when you express your feelings can have a distinct effect upon your child. If you express a negative opinion in the presence of your child, you need to remember that he or she may return to practice the next day and carry with him or her your convictions. Your son or daughter will then have to interact with this coach. You, as the parent, can greatly affect this delicate relationship. Parents have varying levels of experience and appreciation of a sport, but they are not the coach. Receiving technical or strategic instruction at home may interfere and conflict with the instructional process at practice sessions and games. This may ultimately impede your son's or daughter's progress and affect his or her playing time or even their ability to win a starting position.

"It's not the will to win that matters – everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters."

Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant

The Parent-Coach Relationship: In your role as a parent, you obviously love and are concerned about your child's welfare. You want the best for him or her, but an athlete can have only one coach. Allowing the coach to instruct and guide the team is crucial in many respects. Should you have any questions or concerns, do not approach the coach immediately at the conclusion of a contest. At this time, coaches have other responsibilities, and it may be an emotional time. Call and make an appointment for a later time and approach this meeting in a calm, courteous, and logical manner. One of the responsibilities which a coach has at the conclusion of a contest is to have a brief meeting with his or her players. Athletes should not pause to talk to parents or friends immediately after games. These brief meetings are essential to the learning process involved in athletics. A simple biblical principle for both parents and coaches to follow to govern such interaction is "right time, right place, and right spirit."

The Parent-Player Relationship: Some parents may try to live through their child's athletic efforts. Being positive and supportive is important, but adding pressure and unrealistic expectations can be extremely harmful. Allow your son or daughter to enjoy and grow from this valuable experience. In numerous national studies, it has been determined that most athletes participate for enjoyment or fun. Excessive pressure or expectations can alter this most fundamental reason for playing. When you do speak with your child after a contest, don't dwell on his or her play, how many points they scored, or if they started. Instead, first focus on how the *team* did and whether your son or daughter play hard and gave 100%.

Relationships With Officials: There is an age-old refrain often used by irate fans. “How much are you paying the officials?” The home school does not choose the officials; officials are assigned by a scheduler. Officials go through rigorous training and testing in order to earn the right to officiate high school athletic contests. They are mentored and assessed by OHSAA on a regular basis. Officials also agree to and follow a code of ethics. They really do not care or have a vested interest in which team emerges as the victor. It is also important to understand that they are a very necessary part of a game. A contest cannot be played without them. So, while you may not agree with all of their calls (who does?), please do not harass and taunt them. It is also important to remember that they are in charge of the contest and have complete authority to have unruly spectators removed. In many sports, a team will see the same official several times during a season. Coaches, athletic directors, administrators, and schools often work hard to establish a rapport and good working relationship which can easily be damaged by spectators.

GENERAL SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES

Expectations for Spectator Behavior

- Show respect to the players on both teams. Remember that each one of them is someone’s son and daughter.
- Applaud players on both teams for their efforts.
- Accept the decisions of officials. Show them the respect they are due as those in a legitimate position of authority over the game.
- Appreciate participants for their commitment.
- Support school personnel in conducting an orderly and spirited contest.
- Maintain composure when things seem to go against your team.
- Respect the rights of other spectators. Treat them just as you would like to be treated in their gym or at their field. Consider treating them as a guest you have invited to church, whom you are excited has come!
- Reward sportsmanlike behavior through cheering.
- Focus attention on positive aspects of competition.
- Encourage players by showing enthusiasm and positive recognition.
- Demonstrate concern for the safety and welfare of athletes.
- Remember that the Lord sees our actions and knows the thoughts and intents of our hearts.

Since athletics should be educational in nature, it is important that all parents demonstrate good sportsmanship and serve as role models for our athletes and students. Sportsmanship is an overt display of respect for the rules of sport and for all others. It also involves a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and integrity. This means:

- There can be no vulgar or inappropriate language from our fans or spectators.
- Taunting or trash talking of our opponents cannot be tolerated.
- Spectators cannot enter the court or field during a contest.
- Fans should be supportive and positive. Cheering should be done for our team and not against our opponent.
- We should not impede or interfere with our opponent’s cheerleaders when leading their cheers.
- In some specific sports such as basketball and volleyball, we should not yell at an opponent during a foul shot or as a player attempts to serve.
- School officials have the authority to remove a spectator(s) from a contest for unruly or improper conduct. The individual(s) may be removed for the duration of a particular contest or for any extended period of time depending on the severity or frequency of the improper conduct.

Remember these young men and ladies are students and not professional athletes. They will make errors in the course of competition, as will game officials and coaches. However, all participants are trying their best. Negative comments, criticism, and booing will not help them to improve and are unacceptable forms of expression at this event. You can assist in their development as athletes by focusing attention on the positive aspects of their performance. Your cooperation is important and is appreciated.



ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS

- Applaud during the introduction of players, coaches, and officials
- Recognize a player's performance after he/she has fouled out with applause from both sets of fans and with a hand shake from opponents.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Shake hands at end of contest between participants and coaches, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat the competition as a game and not a war.
- Search out and congratulate opposing coaches and players.
- Show concern for an injured player regardless of on which team he or she plays.
- Encourage only sportsmanlike conduct which includes class, dignity, and respect.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS

- Yelling or waving arms during an opponent's free-throw attempts
- Performing disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures
- Booing or heckling an official's decision
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call
- Yelling anything that might antagonize the opponents
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances
- Blaming loss of game on official, coaches, or participants
- Taunting or name-calling to distract an opponent
- Using profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game

HAZING

Hazing is an act committed by or threatened against a student or where a student is coerced into committing an act that creates substantial risk of harm to the student or to any third party. This includes any activities that involve physical harm, extreme or unreasonable levels of embarrassment or humiliation, or violation of any rules or laws. Hazing is not permitted as part of any team or activity as an initiation or rite of passage. Hazing in any form will not be tolerated at First Baptist Christian School.

II. CONFLICT RESOLUTION

When expressing an occasional concern with a coach, please refer to and use the following guidelines:

- Never approach a coach immediately after a contest. This is neither the proper time nor place for a discussion concerning your child or the team.
- Call the following day and make an appointment time that is convenient for both you and the coach to meet.
- Raise your concern in a calm and civil manner. Raising your voice, being rude, or using abusive language is totally unacceptable.
- Once you have stated your question or concern, listen to the explanation. Listening receptively will help you to understand any explanation which is given.
- While you may not agree with all decisions of a coach, how and when you express your feelings can have a distinct effect upon your child. If you express a negative opinion in the presence of your child, you need to remember that he or she may return to practice the next day and carry with him or her your convictions.
- Always express your concerns directly to the coach and not to other parents. If you are unable to resolve your concern with the coach, please contact the athletic director to arrange a meeting between yourself, the coach, and the AD.

As a general rule, biblical principles should always be followed when attempting to resolve a conflict. As such, take time to properly prepare yourself spiritually by reviewing Matt. 18: 15-17, Matt. 7:3-5, Gal. 6:1, Matt. 5:23-24, among others.

“Is that the best you can do?”

- Coach Rudd McGary

III. ELIGIBILITY

ACADEMIC - Eligibility is defined as maintaining a passing grade of D or better (68%) in all courses. Eligibility will be checked each academic quarter. Students who become academically ineligible may not participate in extracurricular activities. Athletes may continue to practice at the discretion of their coach, but they cannot perform in any games or scrimmages. Students who become academically ineligible in the final quarter of the year will be ineligible in the first quarter of the following year.

BEHAVIORAL – Athletes at First Baptist Christian School are expected to display an attitude of Christlikeness before, during, and after athletic contests. This includes attitudes toward our own team members, coaches, opposing teams, fans, and officials. Team members should congratulate opponents after a game with a customary handshake and kind word. Physical and/or verbal abuse aimed at an opponent, official, coach, or teammate will result in immediate discipline by the coach and, possibly, the administration. Taunting and/or inappropriate language directed toward an opponent or teammate is inconsistent with the mission of FBCS.

Unsportsmanlike behavior - Any athlete displaying repeated unsportsmanlike behavior or receiving a penalty as a result of unsportsmanlike conduct will be required to meet with the athletic director and/or administration to review the details/circumstances of the infraction. Multiple unsportsmanlike penalties will result in loss of playing time, including suspension from team activities.

Coaches, the athletic director, or the FBCS administration reserve the right to suspend a player from participation in practices and games if, in their judgment, the player is not displaying an attitude of Christlikeness either at school or during athletic competition. Any athlete serving more than one suspension for unsportsmanlike behavior in a season will be ineligible to letter in that sport. In severe displays of poor attitude and unsportsmanlike conduct, the coaches and administration reserve the right to call for an athlete's removal from the team.

ATTENDANCE – An athlete is expected to be in attendance at school for at least four periods (1/2 day) on game days in order to be eligible to participate in that game. 11:20 AM marks the middle of the school day.

FULL-TIME STUDENT/HOMESCHOOL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM - An athlete must be either a full-time student of FBCS or a homeschool student enrolled in our Homeschool Cooperative Program in order to be eligible to participate in the FBCS athletic program. Additionally, Christian schools of like faith that do not offer a particular sport available at FBCS are allowed to participate in the FBCS athletic program through our Homeschool Cooperative Program.

HOMESCHOOL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM – Homeschooled athletes of high school and junior high age may participate in any of the FBCS athletic programs of concurrent grade level as long as they meet all the requirements set forth below:

1. The prospective athlete and at least one parent must meet with school administration for approval and must meet all of the normal requirements otherwise needed for academic enrollment at FBCS.
2. They must complete all forms associated with enrollment for a sport with FBCS.
3. They must comply with all FBCS policies regarding athletics, including academic eligibility, dress code (including hairstyle), practice and game attendance, and sportsmanship, etc. Unwillingness to do so will result in disciplinary action which could result in dismissal from the team without refund.
4. Sixth graders must be eleven years old by December 1 in order to participate in junior high sports.

Home School Cooperative Fee Schedule:

High School/Junior High Students \$150 per student, 1st Sport

Subsequent sports during school year: \$100 per student

ANNUAL PHYSICAL – Every athlete must have an annual physical form (the OHSAA form) on file with the athletic director before beginning practice or competition in any sport.

STUDENT ATHLETE AND PARENT/GUARDIAN SPORTS AGREEMENT (WAIVER) – Every athlete must have this form completed and on file with the school office before beginning practice or competition in any sport.

PARTICIPATION FEES – All athletes participating in the various sports programs are required to pay participation fees.

QUITTING – Character is not built by quitting. Trying times are not times to quit trying. When personal injuries prohibit a player from participation in practices and games, they should still be considered a full member of the team and should attend all practices and games to the extent they are able. Any athlete who quits a team will forfeit his/her right to play athletics during the next consecutive sport season (Example: an athlete who quits basketball must sit out all fall sports the following year). An athlete who quits a team will also be ineligible for any post season awards, including receiving of varsity letters and participation in the athletic banquet. The only exceptions to these rules would be for death in the family or serious injury. The athletic director and the school administration will make a final determination on any exceptions.

“Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered with failure; than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.”

Theodore Roosevelt

IV. COMPETITION GUIDELINES

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES OFFERED

- Soccer (Boys)
- Volleyball (Girls)
- Volleyball (Jr. High Girls)
- Basketball (Boys and Girls)
- Basketball (Jr. High Boys and Girls)

COMPETITION DIVISIONS

JUNIOR HIGH (Grades 7 & 8) – Competitively developmental

- Playing Time – Players should expect to play in each game. The length of their participation may vary from game to game and is entirely at the discretion of the coach.
- Cuts – There are no cuts at this level. FBCS will make every effort to field sufficient teams to meet the demand.

SENIOR HIGH (Grades 9-12) – Competitive

- Playing Time – **Playing time is not guaranteed and is entirely at the discretion of the coach.**
- Tryouts – In the event of sufficient interest, tryouts will be held to evaluate players prior to forming multiple teams. There may be both a Varsity (9-12) and JV (9-11) team in this division. In that event, the top players in grades 9-12 will be assigned to the varsity team.
- Cuts – There could be cuts at this level if the demand exceeds the number of available roster positions for Varsity and JV. It is the responsibility of each coach to meet individually with each player that is cut, explain the reason(s) why he/she was cut, answer any questions the player might have, and offer suggestions to help the athlete improve.

NOTES:

- Playing time objectives assume that the athlete is in good standing academically, has met all team rules, and demonstrates conduct consistent with the student and athlete code of conduct.
- An athlete that is part of the regular playing rotation (as reasonably understood) on the varsity team is not eligible to participate at a lower level (JV).

GENERAL COMMENTS ON COMPETITION LEVELS

Junior high and JV teams exist to provide those athletes who are unable to participate on the varsity squad an opportunity to develop skills and gain experience. While the athlete's age, size, or skill level may be the limiting factor in not making the varsity team, participation on a junior high or JV team may enhance the athlete's potential to make the varsity squad in the future. A caution, however, must also be given. Being a member of a junior high or JV team does not guarantee that an athlete will automatically move up the following year to the varsity squad. The athletes best suited for varsity competition will make the squad each year.

Striving to win is important in athletics. However, compiling a great record or winning a championship should not be the primary objective of a junior high team. The development of athletes should be the ultimate purpose of a junior high squad, while at the same time acknowledging the value of winning, learning, and enjoying being a member of a team.

SCHEDULING

- No games or practices will be scheduled on Wednesdays during the normal school year.
- The AD, in conjunction with coaches, is responsible for scheduling games and practices.
- Practices are limited to two hours per day on school days.
- A limited number of Saturday practices may be scheduled by special request from the head coach.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED ANNUALLY

- OSHSAA Physical Examination Form (Athletes)
- Emergency Contact Form (Athletes)
- Covenant Forms (Athletes, Parents, Coaches)

ATHLETIC DRESS CODE

- Athletes must be in uniforms or school dress code at all games.
- Practice attire must comply with the FBCS dress code as detailed in the Student Handbook.

VI. STEWARDSHIP

Each team member is expected to show utmost respect and care for both FBCS and any host school's property and facilities. Cleanliness of all facilities is to be maintained. Occasionally, teams will be meeting in classrooms of other schools. FBCS participants are expected to respect the personal and school property in those classrooms and leave the classrooms in equal if not better shape than when they arrived.

Uniforms distributed to athletes are the property of FBCS and are to be worn for official FBCS competition only. They are to be washed after each game following the directions provided when the uniforms are distributed. Uniforms are not to be exchanged with other players. Damage done to any uniform, outside the normal use in competition, will be charged to the user. Uniforms and equipment belonging to FBCS must be returned within one week of the close of a season.

VII. TRANSPORTATION

At the writing of this document, FBCS does not have a "team bus" to transport players to/from away contests. Because of this, all transportation will be coordinated by the coach and/or team parents. All parents that will be driving and transporting FBCS students (non-family members) must have completed a Volunteer Driver Agreement Form and turned it in to the school office.

When a parent that did not drive players to a game desires to drive their student athlete home following an away game, arrangements must be made with the coach.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the coach, players should be ready to leave the school within 10 minutes after the conclusion of a practice.

VIII. AWARDS

Lettering –Varsity athletes may earn letters based upon their participation with the team. To earn a varsity letter, an athlete must be at least a ninth grader. Only one letter will be given per person regardless of the number of sports played. The first time a varsity athlete letters in a particular sport, he/she earns a pin for that sport. Subsequent letters earned in that sport are represented by bars. Standards for lettering are determined by each head coach and should be clearly communicated at the pre-season team meeting with players and parents. These standards should include considerations for playing time, character, attitude, regular attendance at games and practices, etc.

Special Awards – Coaches may choose from the following types of special awards:

- Sabres Christian Character Award, awarded to the player that best exemplifies Christlike character
- Most Valuable Player Award
- Most Improved Player Award
- Heart and Hustle Award
- Coach’s Award
- Most Valuable Player – Offense Award
- Most Valuable Player – Defense Award

Awards Banquet – FBCS will schedule an awards banquet each year to present the athletic awards for each junior high and high school varsity sport.

The highest honor to be given at the Annual Awards Banquet will be the **Sabre Christian Character Athlete of the Year Award**. This award will be given to the 9th – 12th grade athlete who best demonstrates leadership, a positive attitude, team spirit, and sportsmanship in athletics and around the school, while exemplifying a high standard of Christ-likeness in all they do.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

- Cleats are not to be worn in the gym area at any time.
- Any athlete practicing in the gym will not be allowed to wear the shoes that they wore as they entered the gym. They must have a clean pair of shoes for practices and games.
- The Athletic Director and administration will make an appropriate ruling regarding any questions or issues not discussed in this handbook.
- When it is necessary to miss class time due to travel to an athletic event, the following regulations will apply:
 - All due assignments will be turned in to the teacher *prior* to leaving.
 - All new assignments should be attained *before* leaving. Late penalties may be assessed by the teacher for work not completed upon the student’s return.
 - It is the student’s responsibility to make sure his/her work is completed and turned in on time, regardless of the athletic schedule.

APPENDICES





Coach's Covenant

At First Baptist Christian School, we believe a coach, like a teacher, has a dual responsibility – to demonstrate by his/her example the character of Jesus Christ and to provide quality instruction in his/her specific discipline.

TRAINING IN CHARACTER – By God's grace, I covenant to train my team in character development and demonstrate in my own life as well as require in my players' lives the following:

Self-Control

– I will keep my emotions in check at all times, avoiding angry responses toward my players, my opponents, the officials, or spectators.

Respect

– I will treat my players, my opponents, the officials, and spectators with respect. The competition is my opponent, not my enemy. Even when I disagree with an official's call, I will treat them with the respect due an authority placed over me by God.

Dependability

– I will faithfully meet the commitments I make to my team and First Baptist Christian School.

Humility

– I will give God the glory for any success He allows my team and me to enjoy.

Perseverance

– I will use losses as opportunities to learn how my team can improve.

Quality Instruction

– I recognize that God is glorified when we strive for excellence, giving each task our best effort.

Thoroughness

– I will make every effort to thoroughly understand the game, know the rules, and devise appropriate strategies to make my team successful.

Diligence

– I will commit to sufficient practice time to give my team the best opportunity for success.

Enthusiasm

– I will approach my coaching ministry with joy, giving it my best effort.

Flexibility

– I will work with the school administration to make a practice schedule that meets with their approval and is consistent with school policies.

Determination

– I will set achievable goals for my team, making every effort to help my team reach those goals.

By signing below, I agree, by God's grace, to fulfill the terms of this coaching agreement. I expect to be held accountable, and, if, at any time, I discern I am unwilling or unable to satisfactorily meet these terms, I will voluntarily resign my position.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____



Parent’s Covenant

At First Baptist Christian School, we believe that parents are the most important teachers in a student’s life. As such, Jesus’s words take on powerful significance - “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.” (Luke 6:40)

By God’s grace, I covenant to provide a positive role model for my student athlete and to represent my Lord and school well by demonstrating in my own life the following:

Respect – I will respect the roles that individuals play in an athletic contest. Problems often surface when any one of these individuals assumes a role not their own.

- **Players play** – Players are not perfect. They will make mistakes. I will be careful to provide positive encouragement to all athletes to do their best. I will avoid making disparaging remarks toward players on either team. I will cheer my own team and not jeer the opponent.
- **Coaches coach** – Coaches have a difficult job. In every game, coaches have to make tough decisions that they hope will make their team succeed. These decisions are often made under difficult or trying circumstances. I understand that the coach has the right to make decisions concerning strategy and playing time within the guidelines provided by FBCS. I may not agree with a coach’s decision, but I respect his/her right to make that decision. If I feel a need to address a concern with a coach, I will do so away from the game and the players.
- **Officials officiate** – I understand that officials work hard to administer the rules of the game, and I will value their role in the game. When an official makes a call, whether I agree with the call or not, I will accept it, respect it, and move on. I will avoid outbursts of anger directed toward officials.
- **Fans encourage** – I understand that my primary role at an athletic contest is to provide positive encouragement and support for the student athletes.

Self Control - By their nature, athletics encourage strong emotional involvement for the fanatic – the long form of the word “fan.” I will be sure to direct my emotions into positive support for my student/athlete and the FBCS team. At no time will I direct an angry response (either by word or action) toward an official, a coach, a player, or other fans.

Enthusiasm – I will enthusiastically support the student athletes at FBCS by attending their games, providing positive support for their efforts, cheering for their victories, and encouraging them in defeat.

By signing below, I agree, by God’s grace, to fulfill the terms of this parent agreement. I acknowledge that I have read the FBCS Athletic Handbook. If at any time it becomes apparent that my attitudes or actions are at odds with this covenant, I expect to be held accountable by the FBCS administration in the spirit of Matthew 18 and agree to submit to their counsel.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____



Student Athlete Covenant

At First Baptist Christian School, we believe that the athletic program is a complementary part of the educational and spiritual emphasis of the school. It has been said that athletics build character. Although that may sometimes be true, it is most often true that athletics *reveal* character.

As a student athlete at FBCS, I make a commitment to demonstrate these character qualities in my participation:

Self Control - I will keep my emotions in check at all times, avoiding angry responses toward my coach, my opponents, the officials, or spectators.

Respect – I will treat my coach, my opponents, the officials, and spectators with respect. I recognize that my coach is my authority on my team, and I will respect his/her decisions and leadership and abide by team rules established by my coach. The competition is my opponent and not my enemy. Even when I disagree with an official’s call, I will treat them with the respect due an authority placed over me by God.

Dependability – I will faithfully meet the commitments I make to my team and First Baptist Christian School. I will faithfully attend all scheduled practices and games and assume the responsibility of notifying my coach if I am unable to attend. I commit to give me best effort as a student and will work diligently to maintain my academic eligibility.

Diligence – I will give my best effort at every practice and game to improve my skills and help my team win.

Selflessness – I recognize that I am a part of a team and commit to making my team and teammates successful. If necessary, I will sacrifice personal, individual success for the success of the team.

Leadership – As a student athlete, I recognize that I hold a leadership position at FBCS. I commit to model Christian character in the classroom, giving my teachers the respect due them as God’s authority in my life, treating my fellow classmates with respect, and consistently giving my best effort in my studies.

Humility – I will give God the glory for any success He allows my team and me to enjoy.

Additionally,

1. I understand that I am a representative of my Lord and my school. I will do my best to conduct myself in such a manner as to always be a credit to our Lord and our school, both on the athletic field and in the community.
2. I understand that athletics is only a part of the whole education and spiritual program offered here at FBCS.
3. I have read and understand the policies established by the school committee for the purpose of athletics as outlined in the Athletic Handbook.
4. I have read the specific policies and procedures given to me by my coach and agree to abide by them.
5. I understand that I am responsible for the care of any equipment issued to me. I understand that my uniform should only be washed in cold water and that I may only wear my uniform on the athletic field, unless otherwise given permission by my coach to wear it for a special event or day. I understand and agree to pay for any equipment issued to me that is lost, stolen, or damaged (reasonable wear from the season is not considered damage).
6. I promise to care for our athletic facilities in a proper manner so as to maintain their quality. I agree to pay for any damages I may cause.
7. I will not wear practice clothes in the church / school unless I receive permission from my coach.
8. While participating in FBCS functions and events related to my involvement in FBCS athletics, I agree to abide by the FBCS dress code guidelines in the FBCS Student Handbook.

As a student athlete at FBCS, I recognize that I am representing my family, my school, and my Savior. I expect to be held accountable to these commitments by my coach, my teachers, and my administrator.

Signed: _____ Date: _____



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F.B.C.S. Student Athlete and Parent/Guardian

Sports Agreement Waiver

I allow my child to participate in the sport of **soccer / volleyball / basketball** (circle one) at FBCS during the current season. I realize that there are risks to his/her participation, and that these risks range in injuries from minor to severe. I recognize the possibility that accidents can happen, and death, paralysis, or any other permanent disability could occur while being involved in this sport. I agree to accept these risks as a condition of his/her participation. I further understand that injuries resulting from his/her participation are my financial responsibility. I will not hold the school, school personnel, coaches, or athletic director responsible for these injuries and/or accidents.

I also authorize the school personnel to order emergency services for my child, if deemed necessary in the event of an accident or illness, should they not be able to contact me personally.

I wish to participate in the sport of **soccer / volleyball / basketball** (circle one) at F.B.C.S. during the 2014-2015 season. I realize that there are risks to my participation and understand they include a full range of injuries from minor to severe. I recognize the possibility that accidents can happen, and death, paralysis, or any other permanent disability could occur while being involved in this sport. I agree to accept these risks as a condition of my participation and will not hold the school, school personnel, coaches, or athletic director responsible for these injuries and/or accidents.

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Sign Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Sign Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Print Student Name

Sign Student Name

Date



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Volunteer Driver Form

As a volunteer driver, I recognize the responsibilities I have when transporting FBCS students and/or school staff to and from scheduled sporting events. I agree to abide not only by school rules, but also by the law when it pertains to transporting the aforementioned people. I recognize that, if I do not do this, depending on the severity of my breaking of the agreement, consequences may include losing the right to drive anyone other than my own child, legal consequences, and possibly financial consequences. I realize that accidents with circumstances that are out of my control may occur, and for those I will not be held responsible. However, in any other case (speeding, reckless driving, driving too fast for weather conditions, functioning seatbelts, enforcement of wearing seatbelts, etc.), I will be held responsible, and I accept any consequences there may be.

Print Name

Sign Name

Print Name

Sign Name



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Athletic Director

The Athletic Director reports to the First Baptist Christian School Administrator and is responsible for the supervision of the coaches and athletes of FBCS. As a role model for our athletes, the Athletic Director should display the following character qualities and requisite skills:

- A Christian testimony consistent with the FBCS statement of faith
- A Discipler's Heart - the ability to see athletics as a discipling ministry
- Leadership Skills - the ability to develop a vision for the FBCS athletic program and then to effectively lead others to actively embrace and pursue that vision
- Communication Skills - the ability to effectively communicate across multiple levels of key stakeholders (school administration, church leadership, parents, student athletes, community, etc.)
- Organization Skills - the ability to keep records, schedule games and practices, as well as plan and execute special events
- Diplomatic Skills - the ability to handle difficult interpersonal situations with grace
- Flexibility - the ability to work with other ministries of First Baptist Church and FBCS to ensure the overall integration of the athletic program into the greater vision of the organization

Athletic Director Job Description

- Exemplify and communicate the spiritual qualities of the First Baptist Christian School athletic philosophy as stated in the Athletic Handbook
- In cooperation with the school administration, administer all policies and regulations in the FBCS Athletic Handbook and the OHSAA Athletic Handbook related to discipline, eligibility, coaching, teams, transportation, fan behavior, and awards
- Recommend coaches to administration & school committee for hiring
- Direct and work with coaches to administer programs and policies
- Work with coaches to identify team goals (spiritual and athletic)
- Implement a development plan with each coach, providing regular feedback throughout the season, as well as a "formal" post-season review of overall performance
- Schedule the fall and winter junior high and high school sports seasons in accordance with OHSAA (including contracts)
- Assign officials (or hire assignors) to cover all home athletic contests

- Communicate with other coaches/athletic directors through various county, conference, and association meetings
- Work with the Sabre Athletic Association Booster Club (SAABC) to make recommendations for improvements to the athletic program, to plan the athletic awards banquet, and to give input regarding the Royal Blue scholarships
- In cooperation with the school administration, work with First Baptist Church regarding athletic scheduling to avoid potential facility use conflicts
- Communicate with local media sources about news-worthy information such as scores, schedules, rosters, and awards
- Oversee an elementary intramural program or sports camp program
- In cooperation with the school secretary, correspond with parents and athletes concerning sports information (physical forms, participation fees, parental consent, eligibility, dates, maps, game & practice schedules, policies, schedule changes, etc.)
- See that a member of the school committee/administration is present at all home games
- Take inventory, care for, and purchase athletic equipment, including uniforms, field and gym supplies, and equipment for soccer, volleyball, and basketball
- In cooperation with the gym custodian and grounds-keeping crew, see that the gym and athletic field is ready for practices and games
- Take personal responsibility for or assign others to see that the game day set-up, game time, and game day clean-up needs are cared for in a timely manner
- In cooperation with the administration/school committee, make needed changes to the athletic handbook (addition of new sports, policy changes/recommendations, etc.)