

Dunnellon Christian Academy
Athletic Handbook
2014-2015

Home of the Eagles



For Students, Parents,
And Coaches

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Mission Statement:

Dunnellon Christian Academy is dedicated to creation an athletic environment where student athletes will develop strong Christian character, striving to reach individual and team athletic excellence in a competitive athletic arena.

Philosophy:

Dunnellon Christian Academy will provide opportunity to field competitive athletic teams in a variety of inter-scholastic sports. Coaches, parents, spectators, and student athletes are expected to participate in these programs using the Christian principles, policies, and practices designated in the Student/Parent handbook and espoused by Dunnellon Christian Academy. It is our firm belief that excellence will be achieved through the implementation of fair play and Godly character. Recognition awarded to the school for athletic achievement will be a testament to the glory of God for all athletic accomplishment.

Athletic Department Goals and Objectives:

The goals and objectives of the DCA Athletic Department are to provide an arena, through competition, for the emergence of a strong self-concept by developing Godly moral character, leadership qualities, good citizenship and a physically fit body.

1. To develop student athletes that understands and appreciates the foundation of preparation, discipline, and practice.
2. To develop the concept of team work and cooperation.
3. To provide our student athletes and parents with guidelines and assistance in promoting sportsmanship and fair play.
4. To provide a program to our student athletes that provides guidelines and assistance in developing academic success.
5. To be Christ honoring throughout student athletic careers.

Athletic Guidelines for Middle School Teams:

Our goal for athletes at the middle school level (5th-8th) is to introduce, teach various sports, and develop Christ-honoring athletes. Playing time will be consistent with developing players for the high school level of play. Players will be given sufficient playing time subject to certain game situations and games (minutes are not guaranteed). It is the desire of the Athletic Department to develop a disciplined athlete with exemplary character.

Rules for Athletics:

Student athletes are representatives of the school and should conduct themselves according to our athletic mission statement and philosophy. All athletes are expected to adhere to the following general and specific rules

General Rules:

1. Athletes are to conduct themselves as representatives of Jesus Christ and model athletes of DCA.
2. Attend all practices and contests unless excused by the coach or athletic director. Permission to be excused from either practice or a game must be submitted to the coach or athletic director prior to the activity by the parent/guardian.
3. All participants are expected to complete the season.
4. Athletes must respect school property. All equipment issued should be returned in the same good condition. Students are responsible for lost or damaged uniforms and other equipment.
5. Display sound Christian character before, during and after all athletic contests.
6. Athletes will refrain from drinking soda during practice or games.

Specific Rules:

1. On days when school is in session, an athlete must attend school that day to be eligible to participate in the game or practice for that day.
2. An athlete with an out of school suspension is automatically suspended from participating in athletics until that suspension is served. The Athletic Director must reinstate the student athlete.
3. If a student is suspended or dismissed from a team for disciplinary reasons, he/she is ineligible to participate in any sport unless granted permission by the Athletic Director. The coach will immediately notify the Athletic Director of any suspension.
4. Any athlete assigned detention by a teacher or administrator must report for that detention. Detention takes precedence over team practice or games.
5. Athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA on progress reports and grade cards through the entire season. If an athlete fails to uphold the GPA, they will be suspended from the team until they are able to bring their GPA up to the standard for athletics. GPA's will be checked at mid-term along with every nine weeks. If a student is believed to be falling behind sooner, their grades will be checked without notice.

Athletic Director:

General Description:

The Athletic Director (AD) is responsible for the coordination of all inter-scholastic athletic competition.

Administration:

The Athletic Director is responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the athletic department. This includes:

1. Working with the coaches in planning and scheduling games, practices, gyms, athletic fields, and related activities.
2. Requisitioning and allocating equipment and supplies within the scope of the approved budget.
3. Acting as the schools representative at athletic conference events, providing input as to the schools philosophy and goals.
4. The enforcement of DCA and conference policies.
5. Informing coaches of DCA and conference policies.
6. The Athletic Director will make recommendations to the Administrator for expenditure of funds. The Administrator will approve all purchases.
7. Obtaining at the end of each sports season an accurate inventory compiled by the head coach listing all equipment and uniforms. Each coach will prepare a "needs assessment" for their program to submit to the AD at the end of the season.
8. Approving travel arrangements for teams.
9. Coordinating use of facilities.
10. Establishing and coordinating the athletic awards system.
11. Establishing a calendar of athletic events.
12. Assisting coaches wherever possible.
13. Being responsible for the inventory and storage of all athletic property.
14. Determining the academic eligibility requirements for all athletes.
15. Establishing and coordinating a uniform replacement rotation system.
16. Coordinating and organizing all sports tournaments hosted by DCA
17. Performing other duties as requested by the Administrator.

Supervision:

1. Responsible for scheduling officials for home athletic events.
2. Encourages and provides leadership in professional growth of the coaches.
3. Works with coaches in the knowledge and technique for all sports.

Inspiration:

1. Develops and articulates a Christian philosophy of athletics to coaches, students, parents and spectators.
2. Establishes specific spiritual goals and biblical priorities.
3. Continually evaluates the process and product of the program.
4. Ensures that coaches share devotionals and pray with their teams.

Coaches:

General Responsibilities of Position:

1. Conducts tryouts and selects players for a team if necessary.
2. Arranges for assistant coaches with Athletic Director's consent.
3. Appoints and trains managers for a team.
4. Organizes and conducts practice sessions for the sport.
5. Submits a copy of practice schedules to the Athletic Director at the beginning of the season. Practice schedules should be forwarded to players and parents.
6. Distributes uniforms to players, keeping accurate records of the list of numbers and gives a copy to the Athletic Director.
7. Assumes responsibility for facility and equipment used in practice sessions. (Equipment put away and locked up.)
8. Handles discipline situations that occur on the team and reports infractions to the Athletic Director.
9. Reports injuries to the Athletic Director and completes the proper injury reports.
10. Informs athletes of team rules and regulations and enforces them fairly.
11. Assumes the spiritual leadership of the team. (devotions, prayer, counsel)

Expectations:

1. Exemplifies behavior that is Christ-like and representative of the athletic mission statement and philosophy of DCA.
2. Maintains self-control at all times, accepting adverse decisions without loss of emotional control. Demonstrate to players how to work with officials to improve their performance.
3. Supervises all members of the team and enforces school rules at all practices and games and never leaves a team unsupervised.
4. Never allows a player to practice or participate in a contest if there is any doubt as to his/her physical condition or eligibility.
5. Exhibits humility in victory and grace in defeat.
6. Develops a positive and friendly attitude with parents.

Fines:

Any fines assessed by the Kingdom of the Son (KOS) because of an action by a coach will be paid by the coach. This includes fines for improper conduct, failure to attend meetings or clinics, as well as other fines.

Suspensions:

1. Upon notification of the Athletic Director, a one game suspension may be given to a student athlete by the coach for disciplinary reasons. The Athletic Director must be notified of any suspension the day it is implemented. The

- Athletic Director reserves the right to impose additional suspension time should he/she feel it appropriate.
2. Players ejected during a contest by the referee may not participate for the next seven days or a minimum of two games.
 3. A coach ejected during a contest by the referee will be subject to review by the Athletic Director and further disciplinary action may follow.
 4. Any player missing a game or practice without proper notification prior to the event may be suspended for one game at the discretion of the coach and/or Athletic Director.

Academic Eligibility Requirements:

Participation in student athletics is contingent upon meeting the minimum requirements of the Kingdom of the Son (KOS) and Dunnellon Christian Academy. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA each quarter to be eligible. Students whose GPA fails to meet the 2.0 GPA on a quarterly report card will be ineligible to participate in competitions until the next quarterly grading report. Students who fall below a 2.0 GPA during the progress report period will wait until progress reports are issued again (for a three week period) to become eligible for play. Students MAY be eligible at that time if they earn a 2.0 GPA which is subject to review by the Athletic Director. Students may or may not be eligible to participate at the time team tryouts occur if his/her GPA is below 2.0. The Athletic Director and Administrator will determine a student's eligibility on a probationary basis. The Athletic Director and Administrator will determine participation in practices during ineligibility. Students should remember that becoming ineligible affects both the individual and the entire program. Students should avoid this situation by making academics a top priority.

Parent Code of Conduct:

As a parent of an athlete at Dunnellon Christian Academy, I promise:

1. To be a Christian testimony at all DCA home and away athletic events.
2. To acknowledge the authority of the coach to determine strategy and player selection and playing time for each player.
3. To assure that my child will attend all scheduled practices and athletic contests.
4. To promote mature behavior from students and parents during athletic contests.
5. To work cooperatively with other parents and school personnel to assure a wholesome and successful athletic program for Dunnellon Christian Academy.
6. To fulfill our obligation as parents of athletes to volunteer our time as requested by the Athletic Department at home games at the gate fee table and/or the concession stand.

7. To insure that each child has completed the necessary health/insurance forms after yearly sports physicals, to pay all athletic fees, and to obtain all required equipment not provided by DCA.

Transportation:

The bus is not always available for team travel. In this event, personal vehicles will be used to transport the team to and from the sporting events. A copy of the drivers license and insurance card of any driver transporting any student other than just their own must be on file in the DCA front office. If the bus is the means of transportation, parents will not be permitted to ride the bus to away games. The only time it would be permitted is if the student to adult ration was uneven. This will be left up to the sole discretion of the Athletic Director and the Administrator.

Dismissal:

When the behavior of an athlete is deemed inappropriate, it may be necessary to dismiss that individual from the team. Before dismissal of an athlete, the Administrator, coach and Athletic Director shall review the case.

Accidents:

Accidents / injuries should be reported immediately to the Athletic Director. The coach or other supervising adult must complete an accident report at the time of the accident. Parents must be notified of the injury when the child is picked up.

DCA Sports Activities:

Dunnellon Christian Academy involves competition with other schools. Currently DCA fields teams in the following inter-scholastic areas if there are enough participants to field said team:

Fall

Middle School Soccer	Co-ed
Middle School Volleyball	Girls

Winter

Middle School Basketball	Girls
Middle School Basketball	Boys
Middle School Cheerleading	Girls