



centurions
CIRCLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2017-18
Student / Parent
Athletic Handbook

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Welcome from Circle's Athletic Director

July 1, 2017

Dear Athletes and Parents,

We are so excited about your interest in Circle athletics. We hope you will choose to become part of our athletic family just as hundreds of other families have for over twenty years. We believe Circle Christian School is a one-of-a-kind organization of families with high expectations in every aspect of life. Circle Christian School strives to encourage learning, strengthen families, and inspire legacies for God's glory. Our athletic department also supports these values in the area of athletics.

Over the past few years specifically, we have seen great success not only on the athletic fields, but in the personal lives of our athlete's, their parents and our coaches. While we are very excited about the success that has been achieved in the area of competition, we get even more excited about the lasting relationships that are formed on our athletic teams.

Within this handbook you will find helpful information including the privileges and responsibilities of participating in Circle athletics. The most current athletic information and announcements are posted in the Weekly CCS News for you. The purpose of this handbook is to provide a reference throughout the school year, should situations or questions arise.

In case you were not aware, Circle partners with several schools and churches across Central Florida to provide you a quality athletic experience, since we do not own an athletic facility. Because our situation is unique and even challenging at times, we value your support, encouragement, and prayers. We appreciate your understanding and patience when it comes to last minute changes in scheduling and facility use that may arise. We also appreciate your participation, prayer, and/or contributions to the Circle Booster Club, as it supports the Athletics and the Arts programs at Circle. In addition, our athletes will be involved in fundraisers that will help make other opportunities available. This allows us to limit your costs, which in turn makes the program more affordable. We strive to be good stewards of the resources God has given us.

On the next page, we have listed your main athletic team contacts. All questions pertaining to student eligibility and athletic department policy should be brought to the attention of the Athletic Director. Questions regarding a specific sport or team should be directed to the Head Coach or Athletic Director / Associate Athletic Director. Your constructive feedback is always welcome. In fact, when you participate in Circle's athletic programs, we purposefully survey your feedback in order to make improvements for future programs.

We hope you find this handbook a helpful resource throughout the school year. We look forward to helping your family develop God-given talents and experience many teachable moments through athletics, leaving a lasting impression on future generations.

Sincerely,

Tim Werner
Athletic Director

History, Purpose and Goals

Almost twenty-five years ago a Circle dad had a dream. His desire was for his son to play competitive middle school basketball. The problem was that his son was enrolled in Circle and there was no outlet for athletic involvement. Circle Athletics began when he and several other dads started the first middle school basketball team. Today, over Circle athletes have the opportunity to participate in nine varsity and junior varsity sports, thus fulfilling the dream of providing Circle students the opportunity to play competitive athletics.

Purpose of Athletics at Circle

The purpose of athletics at Circle is to provide a context for students to use their God-given talent in the forum of physical competition. While athletics chiefly cultivate the physical element, they also produce excellent opportunity and “teachable moments” to build the mental, social, and spiritual areas. The intent is to use athletics to bring a well-rounded “Luke 2:52” experience to the student who participates. “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

Guiding Principles for Athletics

Circle Christian School’s athletic program strives to develop in each participant an appreciation for body and soul. It is our belief that our program promotes the union of these two elements while giving athletes an appreciation of their individual talents and teaching them the value of teamwork, competition, and good character.

To accomplish this goal, the athletic program strives to fulfill these objectives:

- Develop a commitment to a team
- Encourage the importance of nutrition and physical conditioning
- Teach skills that develop individual talent to its fullest potential
- Promote respect for coaches, officials, competitors, and self
- Develop responsibility and accountability for one’s own actions
- Promote honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, and fair play
- Encourage humility in defeat and graciousness in victory
- Develop the courage to try
- Develop emotional control and concentration
- Teach rules, strategies, and appreciation of various sports
- Help students enjoy athletics

Goals of the Athletic Department

1. To provide a program where students can develop physically, spiritually, intellectually, and socially.
2. To provide an enjoyable, positive, high quality athletic experience for the participants.
3. To provide an environment that cultivates a desire for continued improvement and success.

FHSAA Membership and Eligibility Requirements

Circle has been a member of the Florida High School Activities Association (FHSAA) since the 2001-02 school year. FHSAA is the largest governing body that sanctions sports events in Florida. As a member, Circle is obligated to fulfill all policies and requirements of the association. Student athletes must maintain satisfactory grades and other eligibility requirements as put forth by FHSAA. Questions pertaining to FHSAA rules and regulations should be directed to the Athletic Director.

Academic Eligibility

To remain academically eligible for participation in athletics, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative C- average for all course work.
2. Have (at a minimum) a C- average each semester; no more than two semester grades below C- and no F's.
3. Have (at a minimum) a C- average at the end of each school year; no more than two year-end grades below C- and no F's.

Students who do not meet the above criteria at the conclusion of each semester will be restricted from participating in athletics during the subsequent semester. Students on academic probation may be restricted from participating in athletics or other extra-curricular activities, at the discretion of the athletic department.

NOTE: Circle does not allow students to miss scheduled classes for athletic practices. In the event of athletic contests conflicting with Circle classes, the student will need to make advance arrangements with the teacher to either attend another class or make-up the required assignments and/or obtain the lecture notes.

Limit of Eligibility

1. Each student shall have four consecutive years of eligibility beginning when they first enter 9th grade.
2. Four years from the date he/she entered 9th grade, he/she becomes ineligible for all interscholastic sports.
3. Middle School students may participate in interscholastic athletics one year as eighth graders, one year as seventh graders, and one year as sixth graders. MS students repeating any grade may not participate in interscholastic athletics during their second year in grades 6, 7 or 8.
4. A student must be less than 19 years, 9 months of age to participate in high school athletics.

FHSAA Required Forms

The following FHSAA forms must be turned in to the athletic office prior to the beginning of the first practice. All forms can be found on the Circle website at: circlechristianschool.org/athletics/department/athletic-forms.

1. **FHSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation Form**
All students are required to have an annual physical examination by a physician. This physical must be given after May 15 of the previous school year. Only the FHSAA's form can be accepted.
2. **FHSAA Parent / Student Consent & Release from Liability Form**
Both the student and parent are required to sign this form in order for the student to participate in athletics. Parents must complete the medical insurance policy information on this form.
3. **FHSAA Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Athletic Recruiting**
This form shall be completed for **NEW HS STUDENTS** enrollment at Circle in grades 9-12. Any change of information on this form will be the responsibility of the parent.
4. **FHSAA Concussion and Heat Related Illnesses Information Release Form**
Both the student and parent are required to sign this form in order for the student to participate in athletics. Parents must complete the medical insurance policy information on this form.

Circle Eligibility Requirements

In addition to the requirements but forth by FHSAA, Circle has additional requirements and policies that govern athletes.

Circle Required Forms

The following Circle forms must be turned in to the athletic office prior to the beginning of the first practice. All forms can be found on the Circle website at: circlechristianschool.org/athletics/department/athletic-forms.

1. **CCS Student/Parent Athletic Handbook Agreement Checklist**

Both the student and parent are required to sign this form in order to affirm understanding and agreement with the provisions put forth in this *Student/Parent Athletic Handbook*.

2. **CCS Athletic Participation Consent and Release Form**

Both the student and parent are required to sign this form in order for the student to participate in athletics.

Academic and Conduct Standing

Per FHSAA Bylaw 11.2.1, a student must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 un-weighted scale, or its equivalent, in all courses taken, at the conclusion of each semester to be eligible during the following semester. Athletic activities will not be allowed to compromise the primary goal of continued academic progress. Therefore, it is the responsibility of each student and parent to carefully balance the dual commitments of academics and sports activities.

Non-Circle Homeschool Students – Plus 1 Substitute or Less Policy

Circle allows students who are registered and homeschooled though the county in which they live to participate on our sports teams in certain circumstances. If the total number of athletes on a sports team that are enrolled in Circle are less than or equal to the amount of athletes it takes to field a team plus one substitute (for example- basketball, 6 or less; soccer, 12 or less, golf, 7 or less), Circle may at its discretion open up the opportunity for non-Circle homeschooled students to participate on a team. There also may be circumstances in which teams may have more than one substitute and Circle may still allow non-Circle students to participate on a sports team. These situations will be addressed on a case-by-case basis, and a decision allowing a student in that circumstance would be up to the Athletic Department and Administration Leadership Team. Please note: any decision to allow a non-Circle homeschooled student to participate in a specific sport extends to the current school year only. Subsequent participation in following years is subject to Administration approval.

Disciplinary Action for Athletes In-Season

Behavior resulting in a student-athlete receiving a Disciplinary Action Form (DAR) either for academic or athletic reasons, is a reflection of poor conduct for an athlete. Disciplinary action for the student will consequently occur for sports activities and will be administered through the Athletic Department according to Athletic Policies. If an athlete receives a DAR, that form will serve as a written warning. If a second DAR is received the athlete will be suspended for one contest minimum at the Athletic Department's discretion. The contest will be the next scheduled contest date from the date the action is taken. Upon receiving a third DAR, the athlete will then be suspended for 2-4 contests depending on the sport immediately following the date action taken. This will include post-season play in the FHSAA state series contests. If an athlete receives a fourth DAR the athletic penalty is suspension from the sport for the remainder of the season, and possible probation from future sports seasons.

Good Sportsmanship

Good Sportsmanship is expected from everyone. The coaches, players, and fans are expected to represent Circle Christian School with dignity and to be held accountable to that standard. Certain behaviors are considered inappropriate and unacceptable by Circle. The School and Athletic Department have the right to remove or refuse admission to persons who exhibit the following behaviors:

- A. Berating, humiliating, or taunting of coaches, players, officials, and / or spectators.
- B. Racist, sexist, or profane remarks directed at any coach, player, spectator, or official.

In-Season Coaching

All CCS athletes are encouraged, with the advice, knowledge, and consultation of their CCS coach and staff, to work in their off seasons on their strength, conditioning, and to improve their skills in their sport or event. This may include working with individuals not affiliated with CCS. However, during the official FHSAA season for the sport, no athlete shall consult with or receive advice regarding his/her athletic performance or sport from any non-family member who is not a CCS coach or staff, unless authorized by the coach.

Parents and family are encouraged to be proactive in their support of the athlete and his/her improvement in the sport. However, even parents and family members shall not communicate with the athletes concerning specific instruction related to their performance during games, meets, or official athletic competition. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete being disciplined at the discretion of the CCS head coach and may include the athlete being immediately suspended from the team. If the athlete has been suspended, the CCS head coach and Athletic Director, after discussion with the athlete and family, shall decide whether the athlete is reinstated or dismissed from the team.

Dress Code

Just as the school is the center for learning and academics and students are expected to dress in a Christian manner, so is the athletic arena a place in which students are to continue to dress in a manner that is consistent with Circle standards. To insure that all athletes are able to focus solely on their sport without unnecessary distractions by the wearing of inappropriate clothing, the CCS Athletic Department has instituted the following policies.

The athletic dress code is in effect while the athlete is attending practice or is a part of an official CCS sporting event. Official CCS Team Uniforms have received prior approval from the Athletic Department. The team uniforms are only to be worn in competitions.

Practice gear is as follows:

1. For sports in which shorts are worn to practice, standard length athletic shorts are acceptable with the exception when the athlete is required to perform stretching maneuvers compromising modesty. In this case, athletes are required to wear “sliders” or “bike shorts” under their shorts.
2. Shirts are required at all times by all athletes. Tank tops are acceptable and should be 2 inch width straps. Women’s athletic sports bra tops should be covered by a T-shirt or tank top.
3. Occasionally, sliders or bike shorts are necessary when uniforms ordered do not provide adequate coverage. This is up to the discretion of either the Coach or Athletic Department.
4. CCS uniform is not to be altered in any way; shorts are not to be rolled up or tops altered.

Uniform Agreement

A Uniform Agreement Form will be distributed with uniforms at the beginning of each season. Each athlete must read, sign, and comply with the following agreements:

- I agree that the uniform that I have been issued to wear during the season belongs to Circle Christian School.
- I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to take care of it while it is in my possession.
- I agree to return it in the same condition that it was issued to me allowing for expected wear due to its use.
- I agree to read and follow the manufacturers washing and care instructions.
- If I fail to return the uniform or if it is damaged when returned, I agree that I will pay to have it replaced.
- I agree to return all pieces that were issued to me to the athletic office seven (7) days after the last competition and in a zip lock bag with the name and contents written on the front.
- Pay the replacement fee of any uniform piece that is not returned to the Athletic office with 30 days of the last competition. A reminder e-mail will be distributed by the team managers. Athletic office will send the billing.

Team Contracts

In addition to the requirements put forth by the athletic department, individual teams and coaches may have additional requirements and guidelines that apply to the specific sport. In such cases the coaching staff will provide the “team contact” prior to the beginning of each season and these requirements will be deemed as part of the athlete’s eligibility requirements.

Payment of Participation Fees

All athletic fees may be broken up in three monthly payments. See the chart below listing sport and payment due dates. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed on the 5th of the month. Students may be ruled ineligible to participate in any practices or contests if sports fees are not received by the tenth (10th) day of the following month. In an effort to help with late payments, you can submit your Visa, Master Card, or American Express card number to the athletic office to have your sports fees automatically withdrawn on the first or fifteenth day of each appropriate month. If you choose this option, complete the *Credit Card Authorization Form* available at circlechristianschool.org/files/2013/06/2013ccaauth.pdf.

Team Details and Participation Fees

FALL TEAMS	B/G*	Grade	Practice Begins	Part. Fee **	1st Payment	2nd Payment	3rd Payment
Bowling	B&G	6-12	Jul 31	225	Aug 1	Sept 1	Oct 1
Cross Country	B&G	6-12	Jul 31	225	Aug 1	Sept 1	Oct 1
Golf	B&G	6-12	Jul 31	225	Aug 1	Sept 1	Oct 1
Soccer, MS	B&G	6-8	Aug 14	175	Aug 15	Sept 1	Oct 1
Swimming	G	6-12	Jul 31	225	Aug 1	Sept 1	Oct 1
Volleyball, Varsity	G	8-12	Jul 31	225	Aug 1	Sept 1	Oct 1
Volleyball, MS	G	6-8	Aug 14	175	Aug 15	Sept 1	Oct 1
WINTER TEAMS							
Basketball, Varsity	B	9-12	Nov 6	225	Nov 15	Dec 1	Jan 1
Basketball, JV	B	8-12	Nov 6	225	Nov 15	Dec 1	Jan 1
Basketball, MS	B	6-8	Nov 6	175	Nov 15	Dec 1	Jan 1
Soccer, Varsity Boys	B	6-12	Oct 23	225	Nov 1	Dec 1	Jan 1
Soccer, Varsity Girls	G	6-12	Oct 16	225	Nov 1	Dec 1	Jan 1
SPRING TEAMS							
Tennis, Varsity	B&G	9-12	Jan 22	225	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1
Tennis, MS	B&G	6-8	Jan 22	175	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1
Track & Field, Varsity	B&G	9-12	Jan 22	225	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1
Track & Field, MS	B&G	6-8	Jan 22	175	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1

* This is a co-ed team environment. Boys and girls will generally practice together and may be at competitions together even though they do not compete against one another.

** Each athlete is also responsible for a \$50 Sponsorship Fee per sport they participate in, due at the end of the sports season.

All Fall and Spring teams are responsible to fundraise a minimum of \$500. Winter teams are responsible to fundraise a minimum of \$1000.

- Please also note, some teams include a "uniform fee" for any uniforms that get to be kept by the athlete.

Contact List

Athletic Staff	Position	E-mail	Phone
Tim Werner	Athletic Director	timw@circlechristianschool.org	407.740.8877

Coach	Sport	E-mail
Traci Wagnon	Girls Varsity Volleyball –Fall	traciwagnon@gmail.com
Lisa Stone	Varsity Swimming- Fall	swim@circlechristianschool.org
Heather Reddy	Girls Varsity Soccer - Winter	heather.reddy@cru.org
Jeremy Reddy	Boys Varsity Soccer - Winter	jeremy.reddy@cru.org
Michael Howell	Bowling (Boys/Girls) – Fall	chiefmhowell@earthlink.net
Scott Richardson	Boys Varsity Golf - Fall	golf@circlechristianschool.org
Sean Richardson	Girls Varsity Golf – Fall	golf@circlechristianschool.org
Mark Caulfield	Cross Country (Boys/Girls) – Fall Track and Field (Boys/Girls) – Spring	run@circlechristianschool.org
Tony Domenech	Varsity Tennis (Boys/Girls) – Spring	wdomenech5@yahoo.com
Jonathan Hevia	Basketball - Winter	boysbasketball@circlechristianschool.org

Online Resources

The Circle website can be located at circlechristianschool.org. Our goal is to keep the website updated as a resource for your enjoyment and for those who visit on-line. Athletics has its own link with information not only shared in this handbook, but seasonal information including competition updates and records.

The athletic staff will post the most updated information in upcoming meetings, up-coming competitions, and results in the Athletic section of the Weekly CCS News. You may subscribe to receive the updates via e-mail or you may access them on the school website.

FHSAA sanctioned sports provides additional information at fhsaa.org. There are a list FHSAA rules, competitions, reminders, and important information for coaches and athletes. There are also additional links that may be helpful for you to learn more about our participation in the FHSAA.

Florida Runners (flrunners.org) is an excellent resource for information regarding cross country and track and field competitions, results, and articles of interest. It's a great way to check out what's happening in these sports. Circle Cross Country and Track & Field athletes are able to create a profile on this website in order to track a record of their performances.

Travel to Events

During the course of the year, some athletic teams will be required to travel to different venues to compete, practice or participate in specific events. It is the responsibility of athletes and their families to make their own arrangements to secure transportation to and from the events.

Periodically there are events that are held outside of the local geographical area. In these cases, teams may utilize designated drivers to transport groups of students. If travel extends outside the counties of Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake, Volusia or Brevard, Circle requires designated drivers to submit a driver form for review by the administration. This form may be obtained from the school office or website (circlechristianschool.org/my-circle/forms). Forms must be received by the administration at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to departure.

Circle reserves the right to deny drivers the opportunity to transport other Circle students based on the results of any background information.

Athletic Awards & Recognitions

Individual & Team Awards

As athletes participate in Circle sports, they will have opportunities to earn recognition through many competitions. They may receive individual awards as well as team awards. All athletes may keep any individual awards they may receive. However, the team awards are displayed in the Circle office to honor all participants of that team and remain the property of Circle. Your legacy remains for others to appreciate!

Pictures of Participants

At the beginning of each seasonal sport, teams are encouraged to schedule a photographer to take individual and team pictures. You have the option to purchase pictures, but are not required to do so.

Many parents choose to take pictures and video with their own cameras during competitions. It is common for an athlete and/or parent to create website links to those pictures during the season. Please provide a link and/or copy to safeacademics@circleschool.org when doing so. Some parents have created DVDs for the team with pictures and video clips. Please provide a copy for the Circle Athletic Office as well so we may share in your success and keep a record of the season with you. We encourage your involvement, though it is optional. Pictures serve as a great memory and way to share your story with others.

Senior Recognition

During the season, there may be opportunities and volunteers to help recognize our senior team athletes. It has become tradition to designate a 'Senior Night' to honor the senior athletes at half-time of a final game or have a celebration before or after a designated competition. Let the coach know if you are able to volunteer. If you have questions about what to do or how to celebrate, the team managers are great resources for you.

FHSAA District, Regional, and State Competitions

All FHSAA sports have pre-scheduled District, Regional, and State competitions. The guidelines in order to qualify for those events are designated on the fhsaa.org website. All athletes are required to participate in a minimum number of competitions to qualify for District competition. Placement in Districts will determine participation in Regional competition, as it is to qualify into the State Finals.

Out-of-Town Competitions (Qualifiers)

Some Circle sports require out-of-town competitions and possibly out-of-state competitions if qualified. It is an honor for students to compete at these levels, but it is also at the families' expense, unless fundraising covers the expenses. All FHSAA and Circle policies apply for out-of-town competitions as they would for local competitions. The Circle Athletic Office needs to be aware of all competitions for Circle athletes.

Spring Athletic Awards

Circle families are invited to the Annual Athletic Awards Night in May. The purpose of this event is to recognize and honor our high school athletes who participate and compete through the year. We award a select group of athletes designated by the coaches, who display high standards of excellence in practice and competitions. At this event, we also acknowledge the participation of middle school athletes. If a middle school athlete competes in the FHSAA competitions, he/she is also eligible for the Circle awards. The awards include: Man of Valor, Lady of Valor, Total Release, Mighty in Spirit, Coaches Choice and the Centurion Award (given only to a HS senior). The awarded athletes are specifically recognized and presented with a trophy by their coach on-stage. This is a 90-minute awards event.

FHSAA Academic Champion Award Recognition

The FHSAA recognizes Florida athletes for their academic excellence as a team. The athletic and academic departments work together to compile and submit each high school teams' GPAs, in order for them to be considered for recognition. These award announcements are celebrated in the Weekly CCS News and at the Athletic Awards Night.

Fundraisers & Centurion Booster Club

Fundraising

Circle Christian School encourages fundraising in athletics to help support the costs of operation. Each season we ask students and parents to help their teams do at least one fundraising activity to support the costs of facility rental, new equipment, competition fees, new uniforms every 3-5 years, and the various additional costs that may not be covered by your participant fees or donations to the Booster Club. Each team's fundraising goal is at least \$500.00 for the team.

All fundraising must be pre-approved by the Athletic Director. Students may not hold fundraisers to pay for items that they will keep or are not reusable. Many fundraising events may also serve as community service hours for high school students, in which case, the Athletic Director needs to be advised in order for the athlete to receive a letter indicating the amount of hours served.

Centurion Booster Club

The Centurion Booster Club is a unique partnership of parents, instructors, coaches, students, alumni, interested individuals and organizations, and community leaders working together to promote excellence and to enhance extracurricular opportunities through the academic, artistic, and athletic endeavors of Circle students. The mission is to create an environment that encourages excellence while enhancing opportunities for future growth and development. The objectives of the Centurion Booster Club are as follows:

1. To fund and organize the financial support necessary to maintain and expand student opportunities.
2. To promote interest in extracurricular activities and increase school spirit.
3. To enhance communication regarding opportunities, events, and accomplishments.
4. To broaden and deepen the interpersonal relationships of all participants.

There are various levels of club membership, designated by the amount of money donated. Listed below are the various **levels of sponsorship** as follows:

\$ 50.00	Circle Family	\$ 1,000.00	Gold
\$ 100.00	Circle Corporate Family	\$ 2,500.00	Platinum
\$ 250.00	Bronze	\$ 5,000.00	Diamond
\$ 500.00	Silver	\$ 10,000.00	Centurion

Centurion Booster Club members participate in meetings to distribute funds, taking into the consideration the needs and requests of donors, athletic staff, Arts Department of Circle Christian School. The success of the Centurion Booster Club is based solely on membership participation, so all Circle families are invited and encouraged to participate. Visit our website (click on Booster Club) to see how you can get involved or make a donation. Distribution of funds by the Booster Club is final. We thank you in advance for your generous donations.

The **Centurion Booster Club** is "Promoting excellence today, creating opportunities tomorrow!"

Summary of Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Coaches

Coaches are expected to set high standards of participation and support for the team. Coaches prepare athletes from various levels of talent and training. It is the coaches' responsibility to prepare the athlete's mind, body, and spirit for competition. Circle's goal, along with the coach's goal, is to provide the best environment for the development of each athlete. Circle coaches are responsible for the following and committed to excellence by:

Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with athletic office, team manager, athletes and parents in their sport by establishing clear expectations, communicating frequently, providing expertise, encouragement, and promoting teamwork.

Using coaching expertise to promote the athletes' talent and skill development through practices and competitions while providing feedback in a respectful manner.

Tracking athletes' progress and results while helping them each develop a game plan for improvement to maximize their opportunities for success in competitions.

Giving regular instruction to the Team Manager in order to promote a successful partnership and an effective means of communication throughout the season.

Reviewing the season with AD to gather feedback for team improvement and personal improvement. There is no formal review, but this offers the opportunity to determine 'right-fit' for the athletic position at Circle for future seasons.

Committing to the following behaviors in the role of an FHSAA Coach at Circle:

Submit to a personal background check as required by Circle.

Abide by all provisions put forth in the Code of Conduct.

Abide by the bylaws, regulations, policies, and procedures of the FHSAA or the applicable sanctioning association.

Treat everyone with due respect in victory and defeat, and encourage athletes to act accordingly; treat everyone fairly within the context of the activity.

Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.

Respect the athlete's dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.

Consider the athlete's health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athlete's ability to continue playing or training.

Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.

Never advocate or condone the use of alcohol or tobacco.

Regularly communicate with and follow the directives of Circle's Athletic Department.

Take responsibility to return all equipment and any other property owned by Circle at the season's end.

Never accept any form of payment, forms, or anything else that is to be submitted to the Athletic Department. The Team Manager or AD will take care of this responsibility.

Responsibilities of the Parents

Parents are an essential ingredient in the encouragement and support of athletes and teams. However, parents and family members should not communicate with the athlete concerning specific instructions related to their performance during games, meets, or official athletic competition. They are allowed to take pictures and video from a spectator area, but it is against FHSAA regulations to show those pictures and videos to athletes during competitions. Parents are strongly encouraged to reinforce the principles of Ephesian 4:29 “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is good for building others up according to their needs that it may benefit those who listen.” Consistently focusing on and modeling this principle will be a tremendous asset to the athletes, teams, and coaches. We are to serve as role models for young adults; God calls us to stand strong and run the race of obedience to Him.

Responsibilities of the Athletes

Athletes are expected to uphold high standards of participation and the support of his/her team. Everyone joins a team at different levels of talent and training. It is the athletes’ responsibility to prepare their mind, body, and spirit for competition by contributing their time and talent. Our goal is to provide the best environment for their development; athletes’ make the commitment to:

Be a responsible student-athlete who does not compromise the goal of academic progress with participation in athletics. Academics and athletics must be carefully balanced. *See Policy on Academic Standing

Be a role model for others in conduct, attitude, and character. *See Policy on Disciplinary Action

Be responsible for notifying teachers at the beginning of the semester of anticipated absences due to games and discuss make-up procedures for missed assignments or tests.

Agree to accountability to the designated Circle coach while in season. See Policy on In-season Coaching

Work well with others. The athlete must learn to develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. The team and its objectives must be placed above personal desires.

Strive for success. The athlete must learn how to compete. Athletes do not always win but will succeed when they continually strive to do so. They learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Athletes should develop a desire to be the best they can be!

Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Athletes should accept defeat like a true sports person, knowing they have done their best. Athletes must learn to treat others as they would have them treat them and learn to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.

Focus on improvement. Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. An athlete must establish a goal and constantly try to reach that goal. Athletes try to better themselves with the skills involved and those characteristics set forth as being desirable.

Enjoy the game. It is necessary for the athletes to enjoy participation, to acknowledge all of the personal rewards to be derived from athletics, and to give sufficiently of themselves in order to preserve and improve the program.

Develop healthy habits. It is important to obtain a degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits and to develop the desire to maintain physical fitness after formal fitness has been completed.

Earn playing time. The nature of athletics and competition means that coaches try to put the best team on our court or field. It is the coach’s job to decide who the most qualified players are, so the team will have its best chance for success.

Attend all practices and games. The athlete must attend all practices and games unless excused by the coach for illness or emergencies beyond the student’s control. Please schedule vacations prior to the sports season.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How do I get involved in Circle Athletics?

A. Attend the Athletic Information Meeting (Fall) and meet the eligibility requirements in this handbook.

Q. Why do the sports fees vary so much for each sport?

A. Sports fees cover facility rental, equipment, staff compensation, entry fees, FHSAA participation, and the needs presented by the coaches. Sports that do not require a facility are generally less costly.

Q. Where can I find more information regarding upcoming events and meetings?

A. The most current information is available in the Weekly CCS News. Additional information is located on the school website and in this handbook. Further questions can be answered by the athletic staff.

Q. Can athletes participate in more than one sport at the same time?

A. Yes. Athletes may compete in two Circle sports simultaneously or with overlapping seasons.

Q. Who will keep me informed throughout the season regarding changes that occur?

A. Team Managers are parent volunteers who assist the coaching team with communication and coordination of events. The TMs are the communication liaison for the Circle Athletic Team.

Q. How do I donate money to help pay for equipment or new uniforms?

A. We welcome your tax-deductible donations to the Booster Club, payable to Circle Christian School. These donations may be designated for a specific reason and to a specific sport by request, based upon approval of the Booster club. For more information, contact Tim Werner, Athletic Director.

Q. Who is eligible to be selected to the Varsity teams?

A. Athletes in grades 6 – 12 may participate in FHSAA sports if they are selected for the team based on their talents determined in try-outs. Some sports may only have a varsity team in which to participate.

Q. Are Circle athletes eligible to receive athletic scholarships for college?

A. Yes. Many Circle students have received college athletic scholarships based upon their performance in contests, academics, and the availability of scholarships to the colleges of his/her choice.

Q. Do I have to be enrolled in Circle to participate in Circle sports?

A. Yes. You are required to be enrolled in CCS, but not required to be in any Circle classes. Athletes may not participate on sports teams for another school, these opportunities are governed by FHSAA and NCAA guidelines.

Q. Are athletes required to return their uniforms at the end of each season?

A. Yes. Athletes are required to return their uniforms in good condition at the end of the season. The Team Managers will assist with this process. The cost of any uniforms not returned will be billed to the family.

Q. Are there more opportunities for elementary and middle school students coming?

A. Yes. Tim Werner is developing more opportunities for middle school athletes, but many will also include younger grades. Contact Tim for elementary opportunities.