



Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School Athletic Handbook

Purpose

Athletics at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School are considered to be an important part of the total educational program of the school. The program offers a variety of opportunities and is set up to cultivate traits of Christian character including cooperation, loyalty, good sportsmanship, self-discipline and team play. The athletic program at Wyneken is conducted as an educational tool for the training of Christian citizens.

Statement of Philosophy

The focus of the athletic program shall be, in a Christian atmosphere, to emphasize that students attend school to receive an education first and participate in athletics second. Competitive sports are an integral part of the culture in which we live and are valuable tools that may be used to enrich the lives of students at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School.

Winning is important, but secondary to the principles of fair play and good sportsmanship. Desirable outcomes can be achieved only through competent coaching and a desire to abide by the rules. The coaches shall exemplify, through their behavior, those personal and professional qualities that will influence the development of high ideals and standards in others. The coaches shall be good teachers of skills and techniques and above all else be fair and consistent.

Student athletes shall be encouraged to participate in a variety of activities. Student athletes shall make a commitment to the sport in which they select by attending practice regularly, abiding by team and school rules, and working for self-improvement.

Program Objectives

- 1) To provide an opportunity for the achievement of the highest potential in both academics and athletics.
- 2) To teach new skills and offer opportunities to improve those already possessed.
- 3) To provide students with opportunities to understand that they can and are a witness to their faith in all they do.
- 4) To provide opportunity for the students to place "group" above "self" and learn to practice self-discipline for the overall benefit of the team or group of which he/she is a member.
- 5) To give students an early understanding that participation in athletics is leadership training that is a privilege that also carries responsibilities.
- 6) To provide opportunities to learn the benefits of following rules.
- 7) To provide opportunities for lasting friendships with both teammates and opponents.
- 8) To provide an opportunity for growth and development.
- 9) To provide an opportunity for the student to have fun and at the same time develop self-worth.

Organization

Policies for the athletic program are recommended by the athletic director and submitted to the principal and Wyneken School Board for approval. The assistant athletic director and coaches are directly responsible to the athletic director as to carrying out the conduct of the athletic program as described in the athletic handbook. The Wyneken Athletic Booster Club shall exist as an extension of the athletic director and shall coordinate the funds necessary to run the athletic program. The athletic director is in turn ultimately responsible to the Wyneken School Board for the total conduct of the athletic and physical education program and use of the athletic and physical education facilities. The athletic director secures coaches on a volunteer basis for all sports.

The principal shall act as the liaison between the school board and athletic director and consult the athletic director as to the operation of the program.

Participation and Eligibility

In general, all 5th-8th grade students who maintain Wyneken's religious, academic and social standards are eligible to participate in athletics. Participation by any athlete meeting these requirements will be limited only when it is apparent that the welfare of the student or the school is endangered. Wyneken offers (as student participation allows) the following competitive sports: Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling and Cheerleading (7th & 8th grade only).

Athletic Injuries

Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School, follows the same policy for athletic injuries as the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) as listed under the "Consent and Release Certificate" area on the IHSAA Physical Forms:

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RELEASE CERTIFICATE

I know that athletic participation is a privilege. I know of the risks involved in athletic participation, understand that serious injury, and even death, is possible in such participation, and choose to accept such risks. I voluntarily accept any and all responsibility for my own safety and welfare while participating in athletics, with full understanding of the risks involved, and agree to release and hold harmless my school, the schools involved and the IHSAA of and from any and all responsibility and liability, including any from their own negligence, for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agree to take no legal action against my school, the schools involved or the IHSAA because of any accident or mishap involving my athletic participation.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/EMANCIPATED STUDENT CONSENT, ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE CERTIFICATE

Undersigned knows of and acknowledges that the student knows of the risks involved in athletic participation, understands that serious injury, and even death, is possible in such participation and chooses to accept any and all responsibility for the student's safety and welfare while participating in athletics. With full understanding of the risks involved, undersigned releases and holds harmless the student's school, the schools involved and the IHSAA of and from any and all responsibility and liability, including any from their own negligence, for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agrees to take no legal action against the IHSAA or the schools involved because of any accident or mishap involving the student's athletic participation.

Physical forms will be kept on file for a period of one school year then destroyed.

Athletic Guidelines

- 1) At the 5th and 6th grade levels, the coaches stress teaching skills and learning the game, with less emphasis placed on winning. Although it is not possible to be exact, coaches will strive for equal playing time among players; however, players and parents must also realize that attitude, cooperation, and attendance at practices along with any failure to follow team and school policies can affect playing time. As the number of participants on a particular team increases, separate games for 5th graders will be sought to ensure participation by all. When teams participate in tournaments, teams will be playing with a goal to win and be successful. Playing time during tournaments is not guaranteed although coaches will strive to play everyone. Certain situations may arise where playing time is limited.

The number of teams per sport is dependent on student participation. Team sports (soccer, basketball,

volleyball) are offered to students in grades five through eight. In the event that more players are needed to fill a JV athletic team, fourth graders will be given the opportunity to participate. This shall be evaluated on a team by team basis, however fourth grade student-athletes are invited and encouraged to participate in Wyneken's Wrestling program. Should numbers only allow for one team, and to prevent 4th graders from competing against 8th graders, Wyneken will decline using 4th graders in that season.

- 2) At the 7th and 8th grade level, more emphasis is placed on sharpening skills, competition, and on winning. However, this does not mean that winning at all costs is our goal. It does mean that playing time at this level will not be equal as games are played not only to have fun and learn skills, but also to win and be successful.
 - An A and B schedule will be provided by the LSAA.
 - We will strive to keep grade level participations together, however, when we lack the proper number of participants, a coach may need to bring players up from a lower grade or move players down from the 8th grade to field teams. Such assignments shall be used on skill level (see next bullet point).
 - 7th and 8th grade student-athletes will participate in at least three practice sessions in order to show their Christian sportsmanship, dedication, desire, and skill equally and fairly. After this period, teams will be adjusted as determined by coaches and the athletic director.
 - The movement of players shall be done in groups of two or more for social reasons, and only with the final consent of the student-athletes, parents, and athletic director.
 - Any 8th grader informed by his or her coach that he or she would receive more playing time on the B team schedule will be afforded one of the following options:
 - A) Participate only on the B team.
 - B) Participate only on the A team with clear understanding of the limits of playing time.
 - C) Participate both on the B team and the A team with clear understanding of the limits of playing time on the A team.
- 3) Regular (Sunday) church attendance is expected of all athletes. Failure to attend church on a Sunday forfeits that athlete's right to participate in any scheduled contests for that Sunday. If a student has poor church attendance (less than 50%, he/she cannot play without his/her pastor's consent. Church attendance is counted beginning the first Sunday after the first day of practice through the Sunday following the final regular season game.
- 4) Grades are monitored on a regular basis and poor performance could have an effect on an athlete's eligibility. Mid-quarter grades that are failing place a student on academic probation until the next mid-quarter or quarter break. Quarter report card grades that are failing make a student ineligible for athletics until the next mid-quarter or quarter break.
 - A) Specifically, any grade that results in an F on a quarter report card will prevent that student from participating until the next mid-quarter or quarter report card. Fourth quarter of a school year counts for the first quarter of the following year.
 - B) Mid-quarter or quarter report cards grades below a C- average places that student on academic probation.
 - C) Students on academic probation will be allowed to practice and dress in street clothes at games. The student (s) grade will be given a two week period to raise their grade to the required minimum or forfeit their eligibility until the next grading period, at which time they must be academically eligible.
 - D) Students with an Incomplete on any midterm or quarter report card may not participate until all

missing work is submitted. All incomplete work must be into the teacher within one week of the end of the quarter or mid-quarter. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility until the next quarter or mid-quarter.

- 5) In the event of a cancellation of school, all practices and contests scheduled for that day are also canceled. ***An exception to this would include participation in LSAA tournaments. Play-offs / championships are not necessarily canceled.***
- 6) Wyneken relies on parents to provide transportation for our teams. Parents willing to assist in this area are requested to furnish the office with a proof of insurance.
- 7) A completed physical exam *and signed parent/student agreements* must be received before an athlete is eligible for practice and competition.
- 8) To offset the costs of the athletic program, a participation fee is collected before an athlete is eligible. The fee schedules are published regularly and available from the school office. These fees can only be kept reasonable when parents and students volunteer to assist with sporting events.
- 9) Many practices and games are scheduled for 5:00pm or later. Unless there is a prior game that would allow them to be spectators, students who need to remain at school must use the school day care program to provide supervision or under supervision of their coach, AD or a prior approved staff member. Practices for all Wyneken team sports and activities will be held only on school grounds. Any exceptions to this would need approval from the principal and/or athletic director.
- 10) Uniforms are issued for all sports and are the responsibility of the athlete. Prompt return of the uniform at the end of the season is expected. When possible, uniforms will be collected at the conclusion of the last event of the season and cleaned as a group.
- 11) Practice and contest schedules are published on a monthly and weekly basis. Changes are possible and will be communicated in the most expedient means possible.
- 12) Each season begins in accordance with LSAA guidelines.
- 13) Contact limits for teams are as follows:
 - A) Varsity teams (grades 7 & 8) are limited to five or fewer contacts* per week.
 - B) Junior varsity teams (grades 5 & 6) are limited to four or fewer contacts* per week.
 - C) Practices over Christmas break are limited to three or fewer, and teams are also limited to either one individual game or tournament. If a player is unable to attend events over Christmas break it is required to give the coaches and or athletic director notice prior to break so arrangements may be made for additional personnel if needed.
 - D) The athletic director may grant exceptions to the above-mentioned items as needed.
 - E) Practices and games are prohibited on church holidays (for example, Advent and Lenten service dates, Epiphany, etc.).

***Note: The word contact is defined as a practice or event.**
- 14) Wyneken is a member of the Lutheran School Athletic Association of Ft. Wayne and follows the guidelines as set forth in the LSAA handbook.
- 15) Athletes are expected to be prompt in both arrival and departure from practices.
- 16) Head coaches will be a minimum of 18 years of age and no longer attending high school. Head coaches should also carry less than a "full course-load" if attending a local university. All returning coaches shall have first opportunity to retain previously held positions unless sufficient proof has revealed that the coach has not fulfilled his/her duties as outlined in the handbook. Any vacant coaching positions may then be filled as needed.

- 17) There will be a mandatory meeting with all coaches, parents, and players before a sports season may begin.
- 18) Issues with LSAA officials, schools and/or policies are to be brought to the attention of the Athletic Director or Assistant Athletic Director. They will then take the matter to the appropriate school or official as necessary. In no way are coaches or parents to circumvent the Athletic Director in these matters.
- 19) Issues related to team participation (practices, playing time, etc) must first be brought to the attention of the head coach, before contacting the Athletic Director, Assistant Athletic Director, or the principal.

WYNEKEN GYMNASIUM USAGE POLICY – August 2016

CONCEPT BEHIND THE POLICY: As stewards of God’s gifts, the Wyneken community encourages and demonstrates responsible use and care of our facilities.

PURPOSE / MISSION STATEMENT: Our gymnasium provides opportunities for Christian fellowship for the Wyneken students and community through athletics and other endeavors.

PRIMARY USAGE = School curricular activities (school day)

SECONDARY USAGE = School extracurricular activities (post-school day or weekends)

TERTIARY USAGE = Church-related activities (post-school day or weekends)

OTHER USAGE = Community activities (post-school day or weekends).

ISSUE:	SCHOOL CURRICULAR	SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR	CHURCH RELATED USAGE	OTHER
Who is responsible for opening the building, oversight of activities, and lock-up?	1. Directly involved staff members (as determined by the faculty) 2. Administration	1. Head coaches and/or athletic director 2. Directly involved staff members (supervisory or other) 3. Administration	1. Staff person (or other individual appointed by the Board of Education, Administration or AD) overseeing the activity 2. Adult(s) in charge of the activity.	1. Staff person (or other individual appointed by the Board of Education, Administration or AD) overseeing the activity.

Areas where spectators are NOT permitted	1. The storage room, boosters stands, and upper level staircase area in the new gym 2. Anywhere in the new north addition except the hallways, restrooms and fountains. 3. Only coaches and players are permitted in the locker room areas. 4. South part of school is completely off-limits.
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Clean-Up	1. Custodial staff 2. Staff member responsible for the activity.	1. At athletic events, the boosters and parents are responsible for any clean up that is a result of the event. 2. Any spills must be reported to the concession stand for immediate clean up. 3. Coaches and/or others trained in clean up for athletic-related spills (blood/bodily fluids). 4. The custodial staff shall dispose of any leftover refuse from blood borne pathogen-related cleanups or of any other trash disposal.
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Hourly Charges for facility usage	NONE	NONE	NONE	The Board of Education will determine charges for supervision, janitorial services, special services (equipment setup), and utilities. Security deposits should also be considered to pay for damages incurred.
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ISSUE:	SCHOOL CURRICULAR	SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR	CHURCH RELATED USAGE	OTHER
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How to request using the facilities	Determined by the Administration and Faculty	Determined by the Administration and Athletic Director	Permission must be obtained through the principal or the athletic director for facility usage with no exceptions. This assures that adequate preparation of facilities and accountability of supervision exists. Therefore, adequate time in advance should be used to request facility usage.	
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Smoking	Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School is a non-smoking area. The north gym is no exception.
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Gym Floor Usage	1. Those participating in an athletic activity should use athletic shoes that are for inside use only. 2. Individuals not directly involved with the athletic activity should use only the gym perimeter. 3. Individuals and groups shall not participate in activities that are detrimental to the condition of the gym floor. 4. The administrator and athletic director may determine which curricular activities are appropriate for the gym floor. 5. No folding chairs, tables, or other such materials may be placed on the wooden gym floor unless the activity is approved by the Board of Education. 6. No tape allowed on the floor.
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Times of Gym Usage (Any gym usage will be cancelled in the event of a school cancellation or any other needs determined by the Board of Education and/or Administration)	Determined by faculty and staff	(See athletic handbook policies)	1. No activities will take place during Sunday worship times unless the activity is in conjunction with worship activities as decided and approved by the Pastor(s) of St. John's, St. Paul's, or Zion. 2. Appropriate beginning and end times for tertiary or other activities should be determined by the Board of Education, in consideration of Wyneken curricular and extracurricular needs.
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