

Catholic Diocese of Savannah

Middle School Athletic Program

Grades 5 – 8

Purpose of Athletics at St. Peter the Apostle School – Our Philosophy

- Recognize the need for physical fitness for the wholesome growth of the child
- Promote a healthy interest in sports participation
- Provide enjoyable, recreational activity which develops Christian attitudes of sportsmanship and fair play.

Athletic Structure

5th /6th Participatory, but competitive

- All eligible students have an opportunity to learn the sport; no cuts
 - Focus on skill development and teamwork; not the scoreboard
 - Multiple teams ensure greater playing time; all students play at some point during the game (no designated amount)
- 7th/8th Competitive, but not win at all cost
- All eligible students have the opportunity to try out; cuts
 - Focus on developing skill, teamwork and a competitive spirit with honor and integrity
 - Single teams- competitive playing time, but all students play within the season

Role of the Coaches

- To reinforce the athletic philosophy of the school
- To set a positive example managing emotions and the ability to deal with adversity
- To teach the values of honesty, cooperation, sportsmanship and unselfishness
- To teach skill development in relation to the sport

Role of the Athlete

- Attend all practices when healthy
- Respond positively/appropriately to coaches, teammates and opponents
- Put forth their best effort
- Learn to accept defeat with courage and victory with honor

Role of the Spectator/Parent

- Encourage both your child and his teammates
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach
- Accept losses gracefully
- Refrain from applauding errors made by opposing teams, sideline coaching and approaching a coach at or after a game.
- You may not:
 - 1) Yell or chant at coaches, referees, other parents, children
 - 2) Question coaching strategy
 - 3) Approach a coach with a concern at or after a game
- You May:
 - 1) Call the coach or email them to discuss a concern relative to your child after the day of the game
 - 2) Put your concern in writing and give it to the athletic director if the problem is not resolved at the coach's level.
 - 3) Call the principal if your problem is not resolved at the athletic director's level
 - 4) Call the pastor if your problem is not resolved at the principal's level

School Policies regarding Athletics

- Students who are absent, checked out early, or are on in-school or out-of-school suspension may not attend athletic events on that day. * Discretion of pastor or principal for medical/bereavement reasons. Parents may not drop off students for athletic practices or games without seeing the coach is present first.

Eligibility

- Player Eligibility – Academics
 - All students who participate in a sport must maintain a passing grade in every subject and have at least a satisfactory mark (S) in conduct.
- Player Eligibility – Paperwork
 - Written Permission, Physical, Student Code of Conduct, Parent Code of Conduct
 - All athletic fees must be paid prior to student's participation in any practice. Equipment will not be issued to any student prior to meeting all of the eligibility requirements. The athletic participation fees are \$50 per sport.
 - Students will not be permitted to participate in another sport until all equipment has been returned from the previous sport.

All guidelines have been set forth by the Savannah Deanery and have been agreed upon and accepted by the Catholic Schools of Savannah.