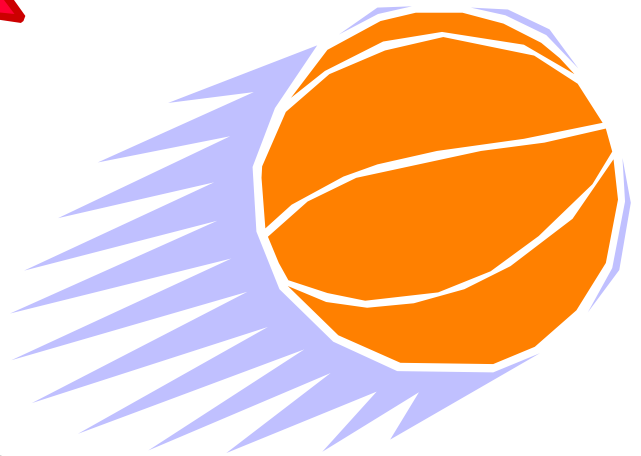


DOC CHIEFS MZGA HS



*St. Agnes Parish
Butler, Wisconsin*
Revised and Approved August 2002

ATHLETIC CODE

ST. AGNES PARISH
Butler, Wisconsin

Philosophy and Purpose

The goal of the St. Agnes athletic program is to instill in the student athlete a competitive spirit and a desire to perform at peak capacity as an individual and a team member. These lessons and goals are framed within the structure of our Catholic Christian tradition.

Interscholastic athletics provided through St. Agnes are designed to be a supportive element in the total education process. This process concerns the total person's growth as an individual spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically and socially. At all levels of sports, the team is more important than the individual. Conversely, each individual is an important member of the team.

The St. Agnes athletic program is designed to:

1. teach and develop the fundamentals of sports and foster leadership,
2. develop teamwork and discipline while emphasizing sportsmanship,
3. encourage quick thinking,
4. expand physical fitness
5. and offer a positive learning environment for increasing moral and physical courage.

It is also important to convey to the athlete that hard work, dedication, perseverance and teamwork can compensate, in many instances, for limited natural ability.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

- Academic achievement comes first in priority with regard to each student's time and talent. At no time may academic/behavioral effort or performance be compromised because of the demands of practice or play. Requirements for participation apply equally to students in the parish school and in the religious education program. Eligibility to compete will be determined by the student's academic record, effort, attendance and conduct in school (whether St. Agnes or public), and in religious education classes. Students may only play on one team in each sport at a time. (That is, the athlete may not play for St. Agnes at the same time as a school, club, or recreation department team.)

I. St. Agnes School Students.

- The principal will be given a roster by the Athletic Director, or a delegate, of the students signed up to participate in each sport **at least one week** before the season begins. A signed copy will then be returned to the Athletic Director, or a delegate, indicating that the students have met the eligibility requirements.
- To be scholastically eligible for interscholastic athletics, all students must maintain a C average and meet the expected standard of behavior outlined in the St. Agnes School Handbook. Failure to maintain a C average at the end of any nine week grading period (including the carry-over of the 4th quarter to the first quarter of the following year) will result in the “Eligible to participate with warning” status. Parents and coaches will be notified in writing at this time. The student must make every effort to improve their academic performance within 7 SCHOOL DAYS. Failure to achieve the acceptable academic level will result in the loss of all participation in athletic activities for a one-week (7 day). The student will continue to be monitored weekly by the principal. . A written statement from the teacher(s) of the ailing class(es) which indicate that the student is making serious efforts to maintain a passing grade must be submitted to the coaches.
- Exceptions to the above policies may be made for students with recognized learning disabilities and/or extenuating circumstances. Said exceptions will be based on personal student data. Exceptions will be handled by the principal with input from appropriate faculty members. The appropriate coach will be notified of the exception. The decision of the principal is final.
- Students may be placed on probation for behavior/conduct reasons, and will be required to follow the above procedure. Any student suspended from school for violation of school rules shall be suspended from all extra-curricular activities for the duration of the suspension, including weekends, if applicable. If a student is expelled from either St. Agnes School or his/her public school, that student is ineligible for all sports for the remainder of the school year. If the student were to enroll in the religious education program the following school year, he/she would be eligible to participate in all sports programs, as long as the criteria for religious education students is met.

II. Religious Education Students

- The Christian Formation Director will be given a roster by the Athletic Director, or a delegate, of the students signed up to participate in each sport **at least one week** before the season begins. A signed copy will then be returned to the Athletic Director, or a delegate, indicating that the students have met the eligibility requirements.

- To be scholastically eligible for interscholastic athletics, all students maintain a C average and meet the expected standard of behavior outlined in the St. Agnes Christian Formation Handbook. For each nine-week grading period, the parent is responsible for submitting a copy of the student's school report card to the Christian Formation Director. Failure to maintain a C average at the end of any nine week grading period (including the carry-over of the 4th quarter to the first quarter of the following year) will result in the "Eligible to participate with warning" status. Parents and coaches will be notified by the Christian Formation Director in writing at this time. The student must make every effort to improve their academic performance within 7 SCHOOL DAYS. A written statement from the teacher(s) of the ailing class(es) which indicate that the student is making serious efforts to maintain a passing grade must be submitted to the CF Director and coaches. Failure to achieve the acceptable academic level will result in the loss of all participation in athletic activities for a one-week (7 day) period. The student will continue to be monitored weekly by the CF Director.
- Exceptions to the above policies may be made for students with recognized learning disabilities and/or extenuating circumstances. Said exceptions will be based on personal student data produced by the parents and given to the Christian Formation Director. The Christian Formation Director will then notify the coach.
- Students may be placed on probation for behavior/conduct reasons, and will be required to follow the above procedure. Any student suspended from school for violation of school rules shall be suspended from all extra-curricular activities for the duration of the suspension, including weekends, if applicable. If a student is expelled from either St. Agnes School or his/her public school, that student is ineligible for all sports for the remainder of the school year. If the student were to enroll in the religious education program the following school year, he/she would be eligible to participate in all sports programs, as long as the criteria for religious education students is met.

Student Responsibilities

- Joining athletics is a privilege and involves commitment. Student athletes are expected to attend all practices and games (unless excused by the coach). Exercising good sportsmanship, using Christian values and maintaining a healthy balance between sports and academics are requirements to maintain the privilege.
- Student athletes are expected to inform the coach when it is necessary to miss a practice or game.
- Student athletes must maintain the academic/behavioral standards as set forth in the requirements to participate in the athletic program.
- Student athletes are expected to have on-time attendance at all practices and games.
- Student athletes must consistently demonstrate their best effort to achieve the goals set forth by the coach.
- Uniforms are to be maintained in good order and must be cleaned after each game. They are to be worn for games and scrimmages only. Where locker facilities are provided for changing into uniforms, the uniforms are NOT to be worn to/from games.
- Uniforms are to be returned to the coach at the last game. Uniform for the next sport will not be given out until the outstanding uniform is returned.

Spectator Responsibilities

- Positive reinforcement of all athletic endeavors by our St. Agnes Parish student athletes is essential to our program's success. We encourage all student athletes, parents and coaches to build confidence in our student athletes by displaying their unconditional support.
- Disruptive or abusive behavior, negative comments will not be tolerated.
- Inappropriate behavior during games, scrimmages or practices may, at the discretion of the game official(s), gym supervisors or coaches, result in the immediate removal of the party from the premises.

Coaches Responsibilities

- Coaches must conduct themselves as Christians at all times. They must not interfere with or impede, and must cooperate with, the parish and school's educational program.
- Coaches will support the parents, student athletes and their teachers in their efforts to maintain a healthy balance of sports with the academics and discipline required in the classroom.
- Coaches provide a very worthy service to the athletic program. They must remember that they play an important part in the development of the student-athletes under their charge. The coach is the role model for the athlete. He/she is to show good sportsmanship to all players, coaches, referees and spectators. Coaches, to the best of their ability, are to provide coaching on fundamentals of their respective sport along with teaching good sportsmanship and the benefits of team participation. Coaches are expected to help each student athlete attain the highest possible level and develop the basis for team competition.
- The use of improper or abusive language or actions will not be tolerated by parish and school administration or the athletic committee.
- All athletic teams must have a minimum of two coaches. The head coach should be an active St. Agnes parish member (St. James if a school family) over the age of 21 years. An exception will be made by the athletic committee if a qualified coach cannot be identified from the St. Agnes parish community. Assistant coaches are not required to be St. Agnes parish members but must be over the age of 21 years.
- A coach's application must be completed and approved by the pastor and the athletic director prior to assuming coaching duties. Coaches are subject to criminal background checks.
- All coaches shall be certified. Training programs for certification shall include:
 - A. A basic or core preparation in the Catholic Christian philosophy of coaching, risk management, and the prevention and treatment of injuries. Two clock hours minimum. This is required prior to assuming coaching duties.
 - B. The videotape on Bloodborne Pathogens will be reviewed annually.

- C. Training in the specific sport to include rules, practice organization, skill development and coaching behavior. Three clock hours minimum. This must be completed within one year of the inception of coaching duties. Copies of the certificate must be submitted to the Athletic Committee before credit is given.
 - D. Certification extends for five years upon completion of the five-hour minimum requirement. Renewal of certification is dependent upon completion of a minimum training of three clock hours. Copies of the certificates must be submitted to the Athletic Committee to keep on file.
Coaches are encouraged to attend additional training sessions as available.
- Each coach must submit an approved team roster to the Athletic Committee through the Uniform Coordinator before uniforms or equipment is distributed.
 - Each coach must submit a list of equipment needs to the coach's representative or respective sport coordinator at the start of each season to be approved by the committee. Coaches are responsible for all equipment checked out to their team.
 - All equipment from coaches not returning to the program must be returned to the coach's representative (or sport coordinator) at the end of the sport season.
 - Practices must begin and end on time. The coach's responsibility ceases 10 minutes after the event. There is to be no practice or competition without 2 competent adults present. One adult must be 21 years of age. The other could be 18 years of age. **If two adults are not present, practices and/or events cannot be held.** There is to be no practice or competition during the hours that school is in session or during liturgical times as specified by parish policy.
 - **Coaches will hold a parent meeting within the first two weeks of the season.** This meeting will familiarize parents with schedules for practices and games, expected player conduct, uniform and equipment responsibilities and other needed information. An Athletic Committee member will be in attendance to assist in the communication of the athletic program policy and guidelines described herein.
 - If at any time a member of the St. Agnes coaching staff abuses his/her authority, he/she may face suspension or termination of his/her coaching privilege.

Sports Seasons

The sports seasons in which St. Agnes participates are defined as follows:

a) Fall Season:

Co-ed Soccer August 15
Girls' Volleyball August 15

b) Winter Season:

Girls' and Boy's Basketball November 1
– no practices may begin until the previous sports seasons end.

c) Spring Season:

Girls' and Boys' Softball

April 1

– no practices may begin until the previous sports seasons end.

Team Policies

- Coaches must make a sincere effort in **5th and 6th grades** to play each player a season average as allows in all games, league and tournament:
 - Soccer --15 minutes (half of one half)
 - Volleyball --one game of a three game set
 - Basketball --one quarter
 - Softball --three innings
- At all grade levels, it is the coach's responsibility to find a way for every athlete to contribute to the team effort through meaningful playing time, utilizing his/her individual talents. Token appearances must be avoided.
- In the event that splitting of teams is necessary due to a large number of participants, the following guidelines will apply.
 - I. If there are 17 or more participants in basketball or volleyball, they will be divided into two equally talented teams. The team split will be determined by the coaches of those teams.
 - II. If there are 16 or less participants in either sport, they will play as one team.
- A team's entire competitive season must be completed before any member of that team may begin participation in another sport. This restriction applies to practices as well as games or matches. This rule is waived for pre-season tryouts to determine team makeup as outlined in this athletic code.
- Teams must have a minimum of four practice sessions before the opening of the game season.
- League games and tournaments are as follows:
 1. Soccer
 - All grades may play a maximum of 12 games
 - 5th & 6th grade teams may participate in 1 tournament
 - 7th & 8th grade teams may participate in 2 tournaments
 2. Volleyball
 - All grades may play a maximum of 18 matches
 - 5th & 6th grade teams may participate in 2 tournaments
 - 7th & 8th grade teams may participate in 3 tournaments
 3. Basketball
 - 5th & 6th grade teams may play a maximum of 12 games and participate in 3 tournaments
 - 7th & 8th grade teams may play a maximum of 14 games and participate in 4 tournaments. (not counting the Padre Serra Basketball Tournament)
 4. Softball
 - All grades may play a maximum of 16 games and participate in 1 tournament

Grievance Policies

- In the event of a dispute between an athlete and coach or a parent and coach, the student and parent will approach the coach with the intention of resolving the issue.
- If an issue is not resolved directly between the involved parties the athletic committee's coaches' representative will be called in to help resolve the issue.
- In the event that intervention of the coaches' representative is not successful, the issue may be referred to the athletic committee for resolution.
 1. If the committee can resolve the issue in session, they will do so. If not, they will interview the parties of the dispute within one week.
 2. If the issue is not resolved as outlined above, the athletic committee will decide the issue by consensus. After the decision, the committee may also determine the appropriate disciplinary action, to include the suspension of coaching or playing privileges.

St. Agnes Parish
School Office
12801 W. Fairmount Ave.
Butler, WI 53007

"Eligible to participate" Warning

Dear

This letter is to inform you that in accordance with the St. Agnes academic requirements for participation, your son/daughter _____ is being given a warning which may result in ineligibility to participate in the sport of _____

The athlete has 7 SCHOOL DAYS beginning _____ to improve their academic performance. If at that time the athlete has not reached the acceptable academic level, they will be ineligible to participate in any athletic activities for a one-week (7 days) period.

The education of your son/daughter is the primary interest of St. Agnes School. The administration and staff will make every effort to assist you and your son/daughter to improve their present academic situation.

Sincerely,

Principal

CC: _____
Coach

St. Agnes Parish
School Office
12801 W. Fairmount Ave.
Butler, WI 53007

Date_____

_____, Student in Grade _____ has fulfilled the academic requirements and is therefore once again eligible to play _____

Sincerely,

Principal

St. Agnes Parish
Christian Formation Office
12801 W. Fairmount Ave.
Butler, WI 53007

"Eligible to participate" Warning

Dear

This letter is to inform you that in accordance with the St. Agnes academic requirements for participation, your Son/daughter _____ is being given a warning which may result in ineligibility to participate in the sport of _____. The athlete has 7 SCHOOL DAYS beginning _____ to improve their academic performance. If at that time the athlete has not reached the acceptable academic level, they will be ineligible to participate in any athletic activities for a one-week (7 days) period. The teacher(s) involved must notify me at the above address as to your progress or your son/daughter will become ineligible.

The education of your son/daughter is the primary interest of St. Agnes.

Sincerely,

Christian Formation Director

CC: _____
Coach

St. Agnes Parish
Christian Formation Office
12801 W. Fairmount Ave.
Butler, WI 53007

Date _____

_____, Student in Grade _____ has fulfilled the academic requirements and is therefore once again eligible to play _____

Sincerely,

Christian Formation Director

St. Agnes Athletic Code
St. Agnes Parish and School
Butler, Wisconsin

Parental Commitment Statement

As parents, we recognize that the St. Agnes Athletic Program will be only as effective as we are supportive. For this reason, we pledge to do the following in order to build a strong partnership with my child's team, which will ultimately benefit my child:

1. To insist that my child act responsibly by:
 - ❖ Maintaining academic/behavioral eligibility
 - ❖ Attending and using time well at practices
 - ❖ Respecting coaches' decisions and guidelines
 - ❖ Displaying cooperative team spirit
2. To assume responsibility as parents for understanding and abiding by the contents of the ATHLETIC CODE.
3. To attend informational meetings required for my child's participation in a designated sport.
4. To respect the commitment of time that coaches make to the program. To respect coaching decisions publicly. To provide punctual transportation for my child to and from practices and games.
5. To work with my child in any way I can in order to support and enhance the development of skills taught in the program.
6. To complete my volunteer requirements so that the Athletic Program can function effectively without causing a burden to any one volunteer. This includes the participation in kitchen/gym door duty when scheduled.
7. To insist that my child respect St. Agnes' facilities and equipment. All uniforms will be returned at the end of each sport season on time and in good condition. We will assume the responsibility to replace any damaged or lost equipment.

I have read and agree with this PARENT COMMITMENT STATEMENT. I understand that my child will not be able to participate in any games until this form is signed and on file with the Athletic Committee.

_____ Date _____
Parent Signature

List of Students and Grade

Please Print Name

Student Athlete Commitment Statement

As a student athlete, I recognize that the St. Agnes Athletic program is for my benefit. I have read the Athletic Code and agree to abide by the code.

_____ Date _____
Student Athlete Signature

_____ Date _____
2nd Student Athlete Signature

_____ Date _____
3rd Student Athlete Signature