

# St. Michael's Lutheran School



## Athletic Handbook 2018-2019

9444 W. Saginaw Rd.

Richville, MI 48758

(989)868-4809

UPDATED JULY 2018



## **ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of athletics at St. Michael's Lutheran School is to provide an extension of the school's Christ-centered, quality educational experience. It seeks to assist students in developing their God-given abilities and talents while learning skills such as teamwork, cooperation, leadership, self-sacrifice, fair play, and good sportsmanship while continuously treating their bodies as a temple of God.

## **ATHLETIC PROGRAM INFORMATION**

St. Michael's Lutheran School teams are nicknamed the "Raiders." The school colors are maroon and white.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETES**

Athletes at St. Michael's are expected to...

- Stay in good standing at all times academically, 2.00 GPA or better is the goal to strive for.
- Be at all practices and games unless an excused absence is written by the parent and given to the coach.
- Conduct themselves as befits a young Christian boy or girl. Improper conduct will not be tolerated and may result with expulsion from the team.
- Encourage fellow teammates rather than "cut-down." Never BOO or make fun of others including the opponent's players.
- Listen to and respect their coach as they should other adults.
- Always put team first. There is no "I" in TEAM!
- Develop their skills outside of practices and games.
- Stay in designated practice area at all times unless directed by a coach.
- Treat all school equipment with respect and care.
- Leave the locker room and athletic grounds in a clean and safe condition.
- Arrive no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of practices and arrange for a ride home within 10 minutes after the end of practice.
- Follow the coach's team, practice, and game attendance rules.
- Secure proper practice clothing and footwear. Athletic shoes must be worn at all times and athletes are encouraged to wear shoes with non-marking rubber soles (for gym activities).
- Abide by the school's dress code and the game-day dress code as assigned and discussed by the coaches.
- Maintain respectable appearance both in and out of uniform.

## **UNIFORM ASSIGNMENT AND TREATMENT**

Athletes at St. Michael's are expected to...

- Take good care of their assigned uniform. Please pay close attention to washing instructions. Athletes will be charged new uniform prices for any part of the uniform that needs replacing or is not returned.
- Please refrain from wearing the uniform out to a restaurant after games or for leisure activity.

- Refrain from wearing school-issued uniform to school, practices, or as physical education apparel unless instructed by coach or athletic director.
- Return their washed uniform to the athletic director within one week of the last scheduled event of the season.

Coaches or teams may decide to order additional sweatshirts, T-shirts, or other articles of clothing during the season. Full participation is not required, but is encouraged to promote team unity and spirit. Coaches will do their best to keep cost at a minimum. Athletic department t-shirts will be made available for sale at school registration.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF COACHES**

Coaches of St. Michael's are expected to...

- View each child as an individual child of God and be sensitive to their abilities, emotions, and needs.
- Be fair to all athletes under their care.
- Never berate or "cut-down" players.
- Show, by example, good Christian sportsmanship.
- Be open-minded to concerns of players and/or parents.
- Discuss disagreements or interpretations of rules with the referee in a Christian-like manner.
- Make every effort to provide families, office, and athletic director with a printed schedule of practice dates and times.
- Assume responsibility for all students who are under their guidance. This includes being at practices and games before students arrive and remaining after until all players have left.
- Supervise all practices at all times by ensuring a safe environment for players at all times. This includes checking locker rooms before and after all practices and games and using discretion upon entering a locker room of the opposite sex.
- Make every attempt to get every player in the game.
- Keep all discussions, disagreements, etc. with assistant coaches within the coaching staff.
- Stress good sportsmanship throughout all athletic events (practice and games).
- Keep equipment in its proper area and put all equipment away at the end of practice.
- Check to make sure that the lights are off in the gym, locker rooms, equipment room, etc., and all doors are locked and alarm set.
- Return school keys in a timely manner.

Please remember that athletes learn how to handle situations on the court or field during practices and games by observing your actions. Please demonstrate positive interactions, conversations and remarks that your student-athletes can duplicate and follow.

## **Responsibilities OF PARENTS and ADULT SPECTATORS**

None of the interscholastic programs would be possible without the support and help of the parents and other adults. Assistance is required in every area, operating concession stands, keeping book, running the scoreboard, clean-up, coaching, supporting the individual athlete, attending athletic activities, and reinforcing the responsibilities of the

student in Christian behavior and understanding. As a result, parents of athletes and other adults at St. Michael's are expected to...

- Conduct themselves as befits a Christian man or woman.
- Support their child, school, coach, and team to the best of their God-given abilities.
- Always "cheer for" their team and each member on the team and not "jeer at" the opponent or referee.
- Respect the decisions of the coach or discuss problems with the coach directly, not with other parents. Open communication is a must. Talking about problems with other parents only makes the problem worse.
- Make sure their child is picked up on time from practices and games. Coaches should not have to "babysit" any athlete after practices or games. (Please be aware of your child's activities and times involved.)
- Make sure their child is prompt to practices and/or games.
- Understand that St. Michael's Lutheran School does not assume any financial expense incurred because of athletic injuries. Health insurance and yearly physicals are required. Athletics is a voluntary program in which the students may participate, if they so desire, but do so at their own risk.
- Provide adult supervision for any child of theirs that attend an athletic event. This means refraining children from running and playing in the hallway, gym and underneath the bleachers, and the playground. Children are expected to sit and watch the athletic event.
- Help the athletic program by working concessions, gate, and running the scoreboard or book at games. Parents will be assigned shifts for home games during their child's season.
- Not yell excessively to the point where an athlete gets flustered or upset. Coaches usually have certain plays and each member must perform their duty. If someone yells something different from the stands or field, it may ruin the play.
- Finally, think before you speak. Sometimes a cooling off period is essential and may change your viewpoint. Kind words accomplish more than harsh words.

### **STUDENT SPECTATOR GUIDELINES**

Student spectators at St. Michael's are expected to...

- Refrain from playing on the field/court before, during, and after games.
- Remain "out from under" the bleachers at all times.
- Refrain from running in the gym and hallway.
- Clean up wrappers and concession items from bleachers when done.
- Remain in the building until it is time to leave an athletic event.
- Refrain from entering locker rooms or classrooms. These are for players and team officials only.
- Be supervised by an adult at all times not just dropped off.

# St. Michael's Sportsmanship Policy

As a Lutheran school, we are committed to honoring God in all we do - including sports. We teach, encourage, and expect our athletes, coaches, and fans to practice Christian conduct and sportsmanship. To help achieve this goal, we have developed the following definitions and guidelines. Teams that participate wearing St. Michael's do so as representatives for our school, our church and, ultimately, our Lord. Additionally, our team coaches and athletes, as well as the athlete's family members, are asked to uphold a culture of Christian sportsmanship.

Should the coach, athlete, and spectator be different in a Lutheran game/match than a game/match not featuring faith-based teams? We believe they should because God calls us to be different than the world. We are not telling athletes to not compete, but instead compete ferociously while respecting your opponent. We are not telling parents not to cheer, but instead encouraging all of us to cheer in a God-pleasing manner. John Wooden, the legendary UCLA basketball coach, defines winning as beating someone else, but success is when you play to the best of your ability. We desire our children to be successful in sports and life. Help them by **"cheering positively"** which helps them follow an example that doesn't blame the officials, coach, or other team for defeat, but instead acknowledges that we can help them handle disappointment in the big issues of life by practicing it in the little issues of life like athletics. We will continue to pray for our athletes, coaches, and spectators that God use our athletic program to help our children **grow as His children.**

**Good sportsmanship** can be defined as: Competing according to the established rules of the contest, respecting the officials who enforce those rules, losing without complaint, winning without gloating, and cheering in a positive way without taunt, ridicule, or intimidation toward anyone. **Christian sportsmanship** is the practice of good sportsmanship as an expression of the Christian faith and an opportunity to bring glory to God's name. ***"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all to the Glory of God."*** -1 Corinthians 10: 31

## ***What does this mean?***

### **1. Competing according to the established rules**

- Honor God and find success by playing to the best of your ability (win or lose).  
);- Proverbs 12: 20 - Deceit is in the hearts of those who plot evil, but those who promote peace have joy.

:> Matthew 5: 16 - In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

## 2. Respecting the officials

- <• Recognize that some calls will be missed as no one is perfect. Do not assume officials are "hometown refs" or against your team. Assess your own knowledge of the rules, your perspective from the bleachers/sidelines which may not be the best, and your natural bias to the situation.
  - :> Proverbs 3: 7 - Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
  - :> Proverbs 17: 27-28 - The one who has knowledge uses words with restraint, and whoever has understanding is even-tempered. Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent, and discerning if they hold their tongues.
- Do not "boo" or make verbal, personal attacks on officials and their calls.
- As a school, we authorize the home team to instruct the officials that we would like zero tolerance when it comes to unsportsmanlike conduct.
- You may disagree with certain calls, but do not resort to loud, excessive complaints and reactions to unfavorable calls.
  - :> Romans 13: 1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.
- ) Respect the integrity, judgment, and training of the officials. Understand they are helping promote the game and student-athletes. Admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
  - :> Titus 3: 1-2 - Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle towards everyone.
- Own your mistakes and/or accept the calls that are made. Excessive complaints and railing against the officials will not result in a positive outcome.
  - > 1 John 1: 8-9 - If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
  - :> Colossians 3: 13 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

### 3. Losing without complaint

- Shake competitors' hands at the end of the contest and congratulate them on their win.
- Do not blame officials, coaches, or teammates for a defeat. Accept and respect their decisions that are made in the moment. Identify possible areas for growth.
  - > 1 Peter 2: 17 - Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God.
  - > 1 Peter 5: 5-6 - All of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, because, 'God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.' Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Do not use profane or abusive language.
  - > Colossians 3: 8 - But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

### 4. Winning without gloating

- Thank God for your abilities and give glory to Him for any success.
- Let your (the team's) abilities and success speak for themselves. Do not brag or let your happiness of winning lead to a celebration of your opponent's defeat.
- Respect the efforts of your opponent. Do not humiliate or belittle your opponent or their abilities.
  - > Proverbs 18: 12 - Before a downfall the heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor.
  - > Proverbs 24: 17 - Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when they stumble, do not let your heart rejoice.
  - > Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

### 5. Cheering in a positive way

- Cheer **for** your team **not against** the other team.
- +• Provide encouragement for the athletes that represent your school and community. Refrain from taunting, ridiculing or intimidating anyone.
- Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a **privilege** to observe the contest **not a license** to openly contest calls, verbally assault others, or be generally obnoxious.
  - > Ephesians 4: 29 - Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

- > **Treat others as you want to be treated.** Be a role model of good sportsmanship and represent your team/school/community in an exemplary manner - even if you are not treated with good sportsmanship.
  - > 1 Peter 2: 12 - Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.
  - > 1 Peter 3: 9 - Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
- Acknowledge good play regardless of which team performed it. Do not "boo" the success of other players, or yell at the other team's fans.
  - > Philippians 4: 8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.

## Violations

The emphasis on Christian sportsmanship and the preservation of this culture is intended to promote the joy and excitement of competition. Young men and women participate in sports for the learning, fun, and excitement. The practice of good sportsmanship helps to promote that outcome and teach tremendous life lessons. More importantly, positive Christian conduct allows sports to be an avenue for honoring God and ministering to others. The desire to win must not override our core beliefs and values.

The athletic director has been asked to share Christian sportsmanship expectations with all coaches, athletes, and fans. Head coaches specifically need to be aware of these expectations and these expectations have been given to .iill families. Issues will be communicated to the athletic director, head coaches, or other faculty member and they may be asked to serve warning to athletes or fans. **We thank you for your help in preserving the joy of the game and bringing Glory to our Lord and Savior.**

Failure to uphold the culture of Christian sportsmanship by a coach, athlete, or fan may result in the following:

1. **WarningfTime Out/Yellow Card:** A warning issued to a coach, athlete, or fan will result in a time out or yellow card to the violating team. During the stoppage of play, representatives from the competing teams will address the situation and deliver the warning. Violations may occur prior to, during, and after games. Time

outs and yellow cards assessed may carry over to the next game/match as needed.

2. **Removal from the game/match:** Should a second violation take place, the individual(s) will be banned from the remainder of the current game/match and the next game/match.
3. **Removal from the remainder of that sport's season:** Should a third violation take place, the individual(s) will be banned from the remainder of the current sport's season.
4. **Officials:** Any warnings or removals from an official will be subject to our culture of Christian sportsmanship.

Warnings and violations will carry over from game/match to game/match during that sport's season. If an individual is removed for the remainder of a season, a written appeal for game privileges to be reinstated may be heard at the next regularly scheduled St. Michael's Board of Education meeting.

7/18/18

## **TRI-COUNTY LUTHERAN LEAGUE**

St. Michael's is a member of the Tri-County Lutheran League. The league is made up of 16 Lutheran Schools that stretch over five counties in Mid-Michigan.

"A" teams plan an end of the season tournament for each sport. The following sports are offered:

1. Soccer (fall)
2. "A" and "B" Girls Volleyball (fall)
3. "B" Boys and Girls Basketball (fall to beginning of winter)
4. "A" Boys and Girls Basketball (winter)
5. Co-ed Track (spring)
6. Girls Soccer Tournament (April)
7. Boys Volleyball Tournament (April)
8. "C" Team Boys and Girls Basketball (winter)

## **PRACTICES**

Practices begin anywhere from 3-4 weeks prior to the sport's first date listed on the school/sports calendar (depending on breaks, calendar dates, and gym usage). Practice schedules will come from coaches. When starting teams, the students are asked whether or not they are interested in participating in a sport and then given a schedule or their name is given to the coach.

## **GRADE LEVELS**

Most of our sports are grades 5 through 8. However, we do have exceptions to that rule when there are spaces on the teams. C team basketball is usually grades 4 and 5 only. Boys soccer will give priority to boys in grades 5-8. **Girls may be added starting in 6<sup>th</sup> grade desired AND needed.**

## **ABSENCE**

A student that is absent during any part of the school day due to illness, will NOT be eligible to participate in any sporting event (games or practice) for that day. In the event of a weekend game, the parent, coach, and Athletic Director will make the final decision on participation.

## **ATHLETIC PASSES**

- All athletes will be given an athletic pass to get into home games during their season
- All passes are good for all home volleyball and basketball games
- Passes are for sale at all home games at the gate
- Adult season pass \$10
- Student (K-8) season pass \$5

## **Eligibility**

Students may be declared ineligible due to low scholastic achievement or inappropriate behavior as outlined in the eligibility policy. Students may be placed on academic probation at any time during the sports season. Parents will be notified with the included sample letter. Eligibility Review Board (ERB) will discuss academic probation on Thursdays and letters will be sent home Friday (or last day of week). Academic checks will be made ever 5 school days.

Students may be placed on academic probation for the following:

- Have a GPA average 1.67 or lower
- Two Ds or one F in core subjects or the combination of two Ds or one F in non-core subjects
- Work attitude-student has not demonstrated concerted effort to work up to capability and consistently as well as carefully complete work in all subjects as directed by classroom teacher(s).

**NOTICE OF CHILD’S PROBATIONARY STATUS**

Dear Parent,

In concern for the academic progress of your student, and due to poor grades or work ethic in core school subjects, your student has been placed on athletic probationary participation status. Probationary status allows the student to continue to participate in his/her sport or extracurricular activity. However, if grades or work ethic do not improve, removal from the team or activity may occur.

As of this date, (date), a check period, consisting of (5) full school days, will begin. During this period, the student must complete unfinished work to teacher satisfaction and carefully finish all assigned classwork on time. He/she should also demonstrate an intentional effort towards improvement. If your student does not meet or improve their academics or intentions, you will receive a letter stating that your child is no longer able to participate in his/her sport or extracurricular activity.

Probationary status remains in place for the duration of the current sport season or length of the extracurricular activity. If progress is made or improved, the student may remain an active participant. However, once a student is placed on academic probation, this status is in effect for the remainder of the current sports season or activity and is continually reviewed on a 5-full day period.

An Eligibility Review Board (ERB) consisting of the Athletic Director or the leader of the activity in question, Principal, and teacher(s) who are involved will meet to review participation status. Input from the student, parent, and coaches may be considered by the ERB. Review of the student’s improvement will be made every (5) full school days by the ERB.

St. Michael’s recognizes and promotes our students’ Christian faith and academics as top priority. Please sign and return this letter to your child’s teacher indicating you have received, discussed, and initiated steps towards improvement with your child.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Charles Chaveriat, Athletic Director

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**ACADEMIC REVIEW LETTER**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and discussed this letter with my child. The following are steps we intend to make towards improving the academics or behavior in question:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **NOTICE OF CHILD'S PARTICIPATION TERMINATION**

Dear Parent,

St. Michael's recognizes and promotes our students' Christian faith and academics as top priority. In concern for the academic progress of your student, and after further review, it has been determined that your student may no longer participate in his/her current sport season or activity. We strongly encourage him/her to continue improving his/her academics and/or behavior. This letter of termination only includes participation in the current sports season, and we hope that future involvement is not consistently affected.

As of this date, (date), your student's participation is terminated. Please return any school property, including uniforms or equipment, to the athletic office. Should you have questions or wish to make an appeal, we ask for your respectful cooperation and contact the Athletic Director within 48 hours. Contact should be made either in person or with a FsstDirect message.

Best regards,

Charles Chaveriat. Athletic Director

## **LIST OF COACHES BY SPORT AND CONTACT PHONE NUMBER**

Soccer-Jennifer Krause (989)397-3190, Kadee Karst, Mallorie Rogers

"A" Volleyball-Charles Chaveriat (262)993-4832, Maddi Buetow

"B" Volleyball-Charles Chaveriat (262)993-4832, Maddi Buetow

"B" Girls Basketball-Kevin Kern Aaron Hoepfner, Other Coach?

"B" Boys Basketball-Jeff Hecht (989)274-7629, Eric Foco (989)274-

4579

"A" Girls Basketball-Dennis Gruber (989)868-3684, Jeremy Boyke (989)529-6187

"A" Boys Basketball- Jeff Hecht (989)274-7629, Eric Foco (989)274-4579

"C" Girls Basketball-Head coach needed, Aaron Hoepfner

"C" Boys Basketball-Andrew Zwerk, John Krause (989)737-0625 Girls

Girls Soccer- Coach?

Boys Volleyball-Dan Stoelting (989)863-2000

Track-Jennifer Krause (989)397-3190, Mike Esterline (989)233-4328, Carrie Hoepfner (989)327-4061

Cross Country-Mike Esterline (989)233-4328, Carrie Hoepfner (989)327- 4061

## TCLL SCHOOL UST

Bethlehem  
2777 Hermansau St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

Christ the King  
612 E. Bay St.  
Sebewaing, MI 48759

Faith  
3033 Wilder Rd.  
Bay City, MI 48706

Holy Cross  
610 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

Immanuel  
247 North Lincoln  
Bay City, MI 48708

Immanuel  
8220 Holland Rd.  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Peace  
3161 Lawndale  
Saginaw, MI 48603

St. Lorenz  
140 Churchgrove  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

St. Paul  
402 S. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI **48532**

St. Paul  
90 Millville Rd.  
Lapeer, MI 48446

St. Paul  
4941 W. Center Rd.  
Millington, MI 48746

St. Paul's  
2745 W. Genesee Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

St. Peter  
2440 N. Raucholz Rd.  
Hemlock, MI 48626

Trinity  
9858 North St.  
Reese, MI 48757

Valley Lutheran High School  
**3560 McCarty Rd.**  
Saginaw, MI 48603

Saginaw Township Soccer Complex  
3575 McCarty Rd.  
Saginaw, MI 48603

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