



# Mooresville Christian Academy Athletic Handbook

## MISSION STATEMENT

“To glorify God, Mooresville Christian Academy’s mission is to serve Christian families by providing an educational institution that integrates Christian principles and truths with exemplary academic and extracurricular programs. The desired result will be young men and women who will pursue a Christ-centered life.”

## PHILOSOPHY

1 Corinthians 10:31 states, “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

MCA extracurricular programs are designed to enrich the students with a Christian educational experience. The athletic programs are designed to help develop a healthy attitude toward competition and of winning and losing in life. The nature of sports is such that there are more losers than winners. We as Christians must learn how to lose gracefully, and when God permits us to win, to do so gracefully as well.

We at MCA expect our coaches, our players, and our students to represent the school in a manner that is respectful of others on and off the field of play. We also encourage and endorse the enthusiastic support of constituents and friends. In the process, we expect all such constituents and friends to uphold the same high standards that we expect of our students, which is to be ambassadors of Christ Jesus. Opposing teams and their fans are to be treated as honored guests.

In order for any MCA sports program to glorify God, each participant and parents of the participant must agree to abide by the academic and Christian intent of the rules. While not all instances can be addressed, each participant must understand the programs are designed to enhance the educational experience.

## MATTHEW 18 PRINCIPLE

Matthew 18:15-17 states, “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his faults between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.”

At MCA, we request that the Matthew 18 Principle be followed when dealing with others, which also applies to the athletic program. Any questions, concerns, or complaints should always begin at the appropriate level and communicate through the proper channels: athlete, coaching staff, athletic director, principal, and school board.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES**

### **Student Athletes:**

1. Commit for the entire season and be ready to practice, learn, and play.
2. Complete a physical exam form (signed by a doctor) on file in the MCA office, before they will be allowed to practice or participate in games.
3. Pay the \$40 sports fee before the first game. If this is a hardship, contact the athletic director to make special arrangements.
4. Arrive to all practices and games on time. If you are going to miss a practice, the coach should be notified immediately. An appropriate consequence for the athlete who misses a practice or game is at the coaches' and athletic director's discretion.
5. Maintain a solid academic standing. The athletes will be responsible for daily homework and studying, and his/her teacher **WILL NOT** be expected to decrease the workload for those participating in athletics. As an athlete, it is his/her responsibility to keep up daily work and use time wisely.
6. Show respect for the fellow players, coaches, and officials, as well as the opposing teams, coaches, and fans.
7. Perform to your potential and have fun learning the sport.

### **Parents:**

1. Commit your child athlete for the entire season.
2. Practice timeliness, by making sure your athlete arrives on time to all practices and games. Likewise, please be on time to pick up your athlete after every practice and game. Regarding away games, an approximate return time will be established, but cell phones will be used to inform parents when the team is running late.
3. Positively support and do not criticize the officials or coaching staff.
4. Encourage your athlete and his/her team, but do not insult or discourage your athlete or any other participating athletes.

### **Parent/Coach Communication:**

Both parents and coaches have extremely difficult jobs. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of others and provide greater benefit to children.

#### **A. Communication procedures that parents should expect from the student athlete's coach:**

1. General philosophy of your coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your athlete, as well as all the players on the team.
3. Locations and times of all practices and games.
4. Team requirements, such as fees and special equipment.
5. Procedure followed, if your child is injured during participation.
6. Discipline that will result in the denial of your child's participation.

#### **B. Communication procedures that coaches should expect from the student athlete's parents:**

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach, following the Matthew 18 Principle.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts, well in advance.
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

### **Parent/Coach Conference:**

Your child's involvement in the athletic programs here at MCA can be one of the most rewarding experiences of their lives. It is also important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is greatly encouraged.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parents. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. **Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a practice or game.** These can be emotional times for both parents and coaches. When a conference is necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

**A. If you have a concern to discuss with the coach, please take the following steps:**

1. Call to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director; he/she will set up the meeting for you.

**B. After the parent/coach conference, if the parent is not satisfied with the resolution, then follow these steps:**

1. Call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

## **STUDENT ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

### **Behavior:**

An athlete in extra-curricular activities is representing MCA, and participation requires a willing spirit. Any athlete who consistently defies authority or conducts himself/herself inappropriately will be on behavioral accountability. Examples of inappropriate behavior would be the following: foul language, fighting, continual loss of temper, cheating, disrespect of opposing teams or coaches, arguing with the officials, etc.

After consultation with the athlete and the authority involved, the coaches, athletic director, and administrator may declare an athlete ineligible for a specified number of games or until there has been a significant improvement on the part of the athlete. Parents of the athlete will be notified in writing of such ineligibility.

### **Academics:**

In order for students to be eligible for extra-curricular activities, they must meet the following requirements:

1. All students must maintain a 1.7 GPA (the prior quarter is indivisible for the entire quarter) in order to participate in a sport of extracurricular activity.
2. A student may not participate with an "F" in any class. The student can regain his/her eligibility after a period of five school days by having a statement signed by the teacher in the failing class that the grade has been raised to passing.
3. Students, who are ineligible because of the "F", may practice at the principal's discretion.
4. In order for students to participate in extra-curricular activities they must be in school the day of the activity.

5. Students must be in attendance at school the day after any extra-curricular activity, unless an excused notice, signed by the parent, is given to the office.
  - a. The excuse "I was too tired" **IS NOT** an excused absence.
  - b. If a student receives an unexcused absence for the above reason he will be ineligible for the next game day or activity.
6. If a student is suspended from school for any reason, he will be ineligible for a period to be determined by the administration.
7. There may be circumstances concerning a student's eligibility that are not covered by the above stipulations, therefore the school administration will make the final decision concerning eligibility.

Grades will be checked by report card and interim reports. If the student receives a failing grade, the student may not participate until the grades are passing and at least one week has passed since the failure. Students, who fail at the end of the year, must wait two weeks to be eligible for the next school year.

**“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.” 1 Corinthians 9:24-27**



# Mooresville Christian Academy

## Transportation Permission Slip 2006-2007

I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for my athlete,  
(Parent's name)

\_\_\_\_\_, to ride to the away athletic games  
(Athlete's name)

in the school bus, coaches vehicles, or other parents vehicles. I understand that this permission slip is valid for all the away games during the 2006-2007 season.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's signature)



# Mooresville Christian Academy

## Athletic Handbook Statement of Faith 2006-2007

I have **completely** read the 2006-2007 Athletic Handbook, and I agree to follow the standards that have been set for this year. I will also practice the Matthew 18 Principle, if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Athlete's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)