

# Trinity Lutheran School-Racine Warrior Athletic Handbook

Athletic Director: Jake Blazei

## Sports

5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cross Country:  
5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball:  
5<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Cheerleading:  
5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball:  
5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball:  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball:  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball:  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Track and Field:

## Mission Statement

*"The mission of the Trinity Lutheran Athletic Department is to enrich the spiritual lives, develop the social and moral character, and enhance the physical skills of our students by means of a competitive athletic program, administered in a loving and caring Christian environment (I Corinthians 13).*

*We also strive to fulfill our school mission statement as well:*

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

A family of believers created by God the Father, redeemed by Jesus the Christ, equipped by the Holy Spirit to confess, proclaim, and teach the Good News of God's love and grace.

**Created. Redeemed. Equipped.**  
**to**  
**Confess. Proclaim. Teach.**



## **Introduction**

The purpose of this handbook is to assist the student/athlete, the parents/guardians, and the coaches in their efforts to provide a guided, meaningful experience in all athletic activities at Trinity Lutheran School.

The athletic department recognizes and supports the primary goal of Trinity Lutheran, which is the pursuit of quality education. Athletics at Trinity Lutheran School are an integral part of the total school program providing learning opportunities in physical, mental and social growth. In this regard, the athletic program hopes to emphasize a quality education by allowing individuals to compete in a variety of athletics.

Participation in Trinity athletics is a privilege. It is also critical that students portray themselves in ways befitting a Christian athlete. The opportunity to present oneself to the public and to represent one's family and school should not be taken lightly. This privilege is extended to all student/athletes who are willing to assume the following responsibilities:

1. Be a credit to yourself, your parents, your school and your community.
2. Display high standards of social behavior.
3. Demonstrate respect for and acceptance of the rules of competition.
4. Demonstrate respect for those in authority, including coaches, teachers, advisors and officials.
5. Display a strong spirit of cooperation.
6. Use language that is socially acceptable

## **Athletic Department Goals**

The goal of our athletic department is to provide an environment of competition, cooperation, and teamwork for our students that will glorify God and provide valuable life lessons.

Winning the contest is important to any competitor; however, the lessons learned in the heat of competition are the most important attributes to be gained from the contest. Naturally we want the desire to win to be found in our athletes at Trinity, but our sense of winning is different from that of many organizations. It is with the far greater purpose of life in Jesus Christ that each student and parent is welcomed to join the athletic program at Trinity. Although God never promised that we will win at athletic contests because we are his faithful followers, He has promised to be with us, to guide us, and to strengthen us. We are assured in winning and in losing that all things work for good in life, and athletic competition is a positive part of the total development that students experience in our school.

Our coaches are dedicated to assisting all athletes in reaching their maximum potential as an athlete, but more importantly, as an outstanding citizen and follower of Christ.

### **Objectives of Trinity Athletics**

The athletic program is an integral part of our school program. As such, it provides certain opportunities and emphasizes goals that are found on the athletic field.

Our athletic objectives are as follows:

1. To always put Christ first in athletic endeavors, and whatever we do, "Do all to the Glory of God"
2. To develop strong team spirit
3. To develop basics/advanced skills in their sport as they continue to grow
4. To develop a positive attitude of continual growth in strong Christian values.
5. To encourage and develop in each athlete self-confidence, responsibility, initiative, and a feeling of belonging.
6. To emphasize the importance of success (winning), but to remember that we are focused on glorifying God.
7. To develop within each athlete the individual and team skills necessary to compete successfully and to encourage each athlete to reach that individual's God given potential

### **BILL of Rights for Young Athletes**

#### **EACH ATHLETE POSSESSES THE RIGHT...**

- to participate in athletics at a level that is consistent with their age and ability.
- to have qualified adult leaders who emphasize Christian values.
- to participate in safe and healthy environments.
- to share in some of the leadership and decision-making aspects of their sport.
- to have their needs as a child met, rather than meeting the ego needs of coaches or parents.
- to proper preparation for participation in the sport.
- to a dignified amount of playing time.
- to have fun through participation in the sport.

### **Expectations for Athletic Director/Athletic Department**

The AD is responsible for all aspects of the extracurricular athletic program. This includes but is not limited to the following items:

1. Serve as the leader for the coaching staff, athletes, and their parents.
2. Select and in-service the coaching staff. Volunteers will be given orientation regarding school policies and mission.
3. Arrange and publish the annual game and tournament calendar.
4. Ensure that physicals, equipment, and uniform details are in order.
5. Schedule and publish all practice times and resolve timing conflicts.
6. Organize or serve as a consultant for the development of the various tournaments held at Trinity.
7. Organize or serve as a consultant for the development of sports clinics.
8. Assist with the scheduling and organization of pep-rallies throughout the year.
9. Deal with questions or concerns, which arise within the framework of the extracurricular athletics program.

### **Expectations for Coaches/Playing-Time Standards**

Coaches are to work in concert with the Activities Director to manage all aspects of the sport they coach. This includes but is not limited to the following items:

1. Serve as a model for the student athletes and their parents.
2. Actively implement procedures, which accord each player a dignified amount of playing time. At each sporting event, the goal is to have each player participate on a sufficiently frequent basis so that self-worth, self-confidence, sportsmanship, and team unity are enhanced.
3. Organize, supervise and run practices for their sport.
4. Keep the lines of communication open between athletes, parents, and the school administration.
5. Supervise their team at all home and away events. If the coach is unable to attend or must leave early an appropriate substitute may be appointed upon approval from the AD.
6. Select assistant coaches and managers upon approval of the AD.
7. All coaches will be given a background check and will go through an orientation with the AD prior to coaching at Trinity. There will be a coach's meeting/orientation for our coaches prior to each athletic season led by the Athletic Director.
8. Coaches will strive to fulfill the mission of our athletic department, school, and church in everything that they do.

### ***Playing-Time Standards***

-Our 5th & 6th grade teams are set up for student athletes to develop basic skills and gain knowledge of the game. Therefore, we strive to have each athlete play about 25% of each regular season game. It is understood that tournament play is different. While each athlete should be given a chance to play, tournament playtime may be minimal. Please keep in mind that the nature of the game can dictate the opportunity for playtime. It is up to each individual coach to manage the game as he or she sees fit.

-Our 7th & 8th grade teams are for student athletes who may or may not have already worked on basic skills with Trinity or with other organizations. At this level, players will be given the opportunity to improve their individual skills and will be taught more in depth about the game. At this level, we promote a higher degree of competitiveness. With that understanding, we will strive for each player to receive some playtime in each regular season game. It is understood that tournament play is different. While each athlete should be given a chance to play in the tournament, some athletes may not receive much playing-time. Please keep in mind that the nature of the game can dictate the opportunity for playtime. It is up to each individual coach to manage the game as he or she sees fit.

It is important to remember that the team is not made up of just the players on the court or field. To make a winning team really work there are also players on the bench. They are there to encourage and support, to help scrimmage in practice, and to go in when their particular skills are needed.

### **Expectations for the Student-Athlete**

1. Be a Christian example to you Teammates and other Students and glorify God in everything that you do.
2. Accept and understand the seriousness of the responsibility and the privilege of representing the school and the community.
3. Accept and follow the instructions of the coach.
4. Live up the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
5. Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, and fellow students.
6. Treat opponents as guests or friends.
7. Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a courteous manner following either victory or defeat.
8. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.

### ***Student-Athlete Commitment***

We consider the student athlete to be someone special, someone who can take on and manage added responsibilities. The responsibilities are accepted in order to broaden the athlete and to further develop strength of character. It has been aptly put, "You owe it to yourself to always do whatever you do in life to the best and fullest of your ability." In word and deed, we desire our athletes to apply these words from Holy Scripture:

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4: 9-10

By being an athlete, you are representing your school and your community. You automatically assume a leadership role when you are on a team. The student body and supporters of Trinity know you. You are in the spotlight. Because of this leadership role you can contribute to school spirit and community image by your performance and high ideals. The younger students are watching you. Do not let them down! Give them high ideals to copy.

### ***Student-Athlete Attendance***

This needs to be a matter of priority for you. Being a part of a team carries with it a certain responsibility to the rest of your teammates. As such, a high priority should be placed on attending all meetings, practices, and games. It is understood that today's society is fast paced, and conflicts will arise, but please do all that you can to schedule appointments away from practices and games. You can be considerate by communicating directly with your coach when conflicts arise. Unexcused absences may lead to dismissal from the team.

Each student athlete must attend a full day of school in order to participate in practices or games. If a partial absence is for a funeral or a doctor's appointment, eligibility is not affected. If a student misses the practice before a game, whether excused or unexcused, they will not start.

### ***Student-Athlete Academic Eligibility***

In order to remain eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at Trinity each student must maintain a C or better average based on all coursework.

1. If the grade point average falls below a C (75%) the student is then ineligible for participation in events, practices and games for a minimum period of 1 week (7 full days).
2. If this C or better average consists of **at least 2 D grades**, or **if any F or Incomplete** is recorded, the student is then ineligible for a period of 1 week or until incomplete work is finished.
3. 1<sup>st</sup>ineligibility notice is 1 week probation (no participation in extracurricular events or practice); 2<sup>nd</sup>ineligibility notice is 2<sup>nd</sup> week of probation (no participation in extracurricular events or practice); 3<sup>rd</sup>ineligibility notice will result in removal from all extracurricular activities until parent meeting with Athletic Director to discuss course of action.
4. Student grades are continuously monitored through TADS. By noon every Tuesday a list of ineligible students will be provided to the Athletic Director.
5. The period of ineligibility begins at noon each Wednesday and runs through noon the following Wednesday. Reinstatement is automatically considered via the weekly monitoring of TADS.
6. Parental line of appeal is through the Athletic Director. A student remains ineligible throughout the appeal process.
7. Additional details can be found in the Trinity athletic eligibility form (**attached to the handbook**).

At times a given student may face challenges in the classroom that are simply beyond his or her academic ability. This is understood by the faculty, as well as the coaching staff. At Trinity every effort is made to assist all students who are in this situation. Such student athletes will be considered for exemption from the stated policy each week on an individual basis. The line of appeal for such consideration is through the Athletic Director.

### ***Student-Athlete Conduct Eligibility***

Each student has the responsibility of being a leader in the school. If the conduct of any student is unacceptable according to the behavior guidelines stated in the School or Athletic Handbook, or such that it impairs the efficient working of the school, then ineligibility may follow as a consequence.

1. Consideration for conduct ineligibility may be brought to the Athletic Director by any member of the staff. The Athletic Director determines that action may be needed, the issue will be brought forward for a decision.
2. A unanimous decision must be reached by the Principal, Athletic Director, and homeroom teacher in order for conduct ineligibility to be declared.'
3. Conduct ineligibility for events, practices, and games will remain in effect for a period of 1 week (7 full days).
4. An ineligible student will be given a *REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ELIGIBILITY STATUS* form within 3 calendar days of the end of the ineligibility period. This form must be completed and returned to the Activities Director in order to be reinstated to the team.
5. Parental line of appeal is through the Athletic Director. A student remains ineligible throughout the appeal process.
6. We will adhere to the Trinity student handbook guidelines as our guidelines if any conduct issues arise.

### **Expectations for the Parent/Guardian**

The philosophy of this handbook is to encourage full participation on the part of each person involved in the athletic program. There are several ways in which parents are able to be involved and develop a deeper sense of ownership for athletics at Trinity.

1. The biggest way parents can get involved and show support for their student athlete, as well as the overall program, is to attend the events. Sportsmanlike excitement by a large crowd adds a special dimension that we want your child to experience.
2. In our school it is the volunteers that make a big difference between mediocre events and great events. This is particularly evident at tournaments where the time and effort involved are significantly multiplied. Therefore, we ask that each parent do their best to help in at least one tournament each year and help as needed at three regular season home games.
3. One of the easiest ways to be considerate of the coaching staff is to be prompt when picking up your child after practice or games. Ending times for practices are listed on the schedule. Ending times for games (particularly away games) will vary.

### **Conduct Expectations for ALL Spectators**

1. Consider **all** athletic opponents as peers and treat them with all the courtesy due friends and guests.
2. Accept the decisions of the officials without question.
3. **Never** use abusive or irritating remarks or sounds. Booing is poor sportsmanship.
4. Applaud good play and good sportsmanship from opponents as well as from teammates.
5. Strive for victory through fair play according to the rules of the game.
6. Do everything possible to encourage enthusiasm for the game and respect for the players, coaches, and fans.
7. Win without boasting and lose without excuses.

The same expectations placed on coaches, student athletes, and parents are in effect for students who attend events. Failure to follow the *CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS FOR ATHLETES AND SPECTATORS* may result in removal from a game and may also prevent you from attending other games.

### **Expectations for Volunteers**

These helpers are parents or students who fill an important niche in the practical administration of home games and other areas. Support volunteers are selected, in-serviced, and scheduled by the AD. In general, their responsibilities include but are not limited to the following items:

1. Serve as a mirror for the student athletes and other parents by upholding the precepts of the Christian Coaches' Creed.
2. Be responsible in carrying out the duties that have been assigned.
3. Be punctual for scheduled events or inform the AD of delays or conflicts at the earliest possible time.
4. The positions filled by support volunteers include scorebook keepers, scoreboard keepers, line judges, gatekeepers, concession workers, hall monitors, etc....

## **General Information**

### ***Due Process for Ineligible Athletes***

In the event of ineligibility or dismissal from a team, each student athlete has the right to due process in resolving differences that may arise over such actions. Parents should appeal in writing to the Athletic Director within 3 working days after any disputed action. The line of appeal begins with the Athletic Director and proceeds to the Principal. A student remains ineligible throughout the appeal process. All decisions made by the Principal are final.

### ***Medical/Physical Exams***

Being in "good health" is important for student athletes. Hidden health concerns may be amplified by the physical exertion of athletic competition. A physical examination card signed by a licensed physician or PA must be on file for all 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade athletes, as well as any new athletes in the "even" grades. It is strongly recommended that any student who is considering athletics receive a physical prior to the start of each school year.

### ***Concussion Risk***

Concussions have become a serious concern in recent years. It is important for parents as well as coaches and officials to recognize the causes and symptoms of concussions. WI State Law requires an immediate removal from activity and medical evaluation of an individual suspected of having a head injury.

### ***Insurance***

Parents are encouraged to have adequate medical coverage for their child before he or she begins practicing for a given sport.

### ***State/National Tournament Play***

In order to apply to the State Tournament these steps will be followed:

1. The head coach of the team must express an interest in applying to the State Tournament.
2. The final decision on entry will be made by a 3-person panel made up of the Athletic Director, the Principal, and the Head Coach.
3. These guidelines are in effect for volleyball, basketball, Track and Field and any other sports that may be introduced.

### ***Uniforms***

Uniforms are to be taken care of and kept clean. Please return them on a timely basis at the end of each season. Uniforms should be emphasized as the responsibility of the athlete. The athletic department may seek compensation from the family if the uniforms are lost or returned in damaged condition.



**TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL**  
**ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY POLICY**

*"Whatever you do....do it all for the glory of God." I Corinthians 10:31*

All students in grades 5–8 at Trinity Lutheran are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Extra-curricular activities are a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to make efforts in their schoolwork according to their abilities. Good behavior and regular school attendance must be observed in order for students to enjoy the privilege of participating in extracurricular programs.

In order to remain eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at Trinity each student must maintain a C or better average based on all coursework. If the grade point average falls below a C (75%) the student is then ineligible. They may not be in the building during, or attend events, practices or games for a minimum period of 1 week (7 full days) without permission from the principal. This is not intended as a punishment but rather gives the student the needed time away from events to improve their grades.

**If this C or better average consists of at least 2 D grades, or if any F or Incomplete is recorded, the student is then ineligible for a period of 1 week.**

Student grades are continuously monitored. By noon every Tuesday a list of ineligible students will be provided to the principal. The period of ineligibility begins at noon each Wednesday and runs through noon the following Wednesday.

Students receiving multiple academic or disciplinary detentions, or a suspension will be ineligible.

Administration and teachers will review students' academic progress and discipline reports as it becomes necessary each week.

**Parents will receive an email regarding their student-athlete's ineligibility from the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will also meet with the student-athlete to alert them of their ineligibility**

1<sup>st</sup> Notice: One week of probation; no participation in any extracurricular event or practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Notice: One week of probation; no participation in any extracurricular event or practice. 3<sup>rd</sup> Notice: Removal from all extracurricular activities until parent meeting with Athletic Director to discuss course of action

### **Trinity Athletic Participation Yearly Fee**

We want ALL our Middle Students to participate in our athletic program, but we also realize that it takes a great deal of support to run our athletic program successfully.

To be able to provide all the offerings of our athletic program, while keeping us on the cutting edge of new uniforms, equipment/facility upgrades, our program has a yearly athletic fee.

Families will be required to pay a one-time fee for each of their students participating in our Trinity Volleyball, Cross Country, Track, and Basketball, and Trinity Cheer seasons.

#### **Below are the specific details:**

\$50 one-time, yearly fee for our Trinity volleyball, basketball, and cheer athletes

- Multi-sport athletes will only have to pay the fee once per year

- Multi-sibling families will pay no more than \$100 per year

We look forward to your partnership!

Jake Blazei  
Athletic Director

**To God be the Glory and Go Warriors!**



# **Trinity's Athletic Agreement**

As a parent or guardian of a player,

I will always support Trinity's program objectives and strongly encourage my child to participate fully in his/her practices and games.

I will respect the coaches and support their management of my child's team. I understand that if I have any concerns, I will quietly approach the coach, following the 24-hour rule, to discuss the concerns responsibly. I will respect the final decision.

I understand that Trinity defines sportsmanship as demonstrating humility, compassion, generosity, and respect, even while being intensely competitive. My child will learn how to control their emotions and actions in a Christ-like manner. As a team member, he/she will learn how to both win and lose with grace and dignity. They will always work to display exemplary sportsmanship.

I will support the coach(es) in the presence of their children. Undermining a coach's authority is harmful to the team and your child.

Coaches are not compensated for their time and effort each season, so please thank the coach for their hard work and dedication.

I will encourage my child to participate in the spirit of friendly, Christian competition, knowing that Trinity's objective is to develop my child's athletic skills and knowledge of the game.

I will cheer on my team but will not make negative comments about my team or the opposition. I will never disparage or degrade any player, coach, official, or spectator in my comments or actions.

I understand that any family member who attends as a spectator should remember that school athletics are student learning experiences and that mistakes are sometimes made. Athletes from all sports should be praised in their attempts to improve themselves as athletes and as people. Appreciation for outstanding play by either team should be shown. Trinity reserves the right to ask spectators to leave.

I will refrain from gossiping and spreading rumors. I will also refrain from threatening, defamatory, and/or critical comments about Trinity and its coaches and/or players, including posts and comments on social media. If I have concerns or questions about the organization or its members and/or activities, I will contact the athletic director to discuss them in a positive, responsible & productive manner.

I will treat Game officials with respect. Understand that they, like you, are fallible and are doing their best to promote the student-athlete. Admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public and be eager to accept their authority.

I will fulfill my volunteer requirement and understand that I must work two regular season hour slots. All winter athletes' parents must have two hours additionally at our Warrior Weekend Tournament to assist with concession, admission, or other needs within the athletic department. If I do not meet my hours, my son/daughter will not be able to participate.

I will pay my athletic fee before my son/daughter's first practice.

As a representative of Trinity, I will show appreciation for the outstanding play of student-athletes on either team. I plan to attend as many games as possible, cheering in a positive Christian manner while promoting positive Christian sportsmanship in public and discussions at home. I will always respect all officials, coaches, and players through positive cheering and enthusiasm. I understand that booing and disrespectful remarks to or about players, coaches, fans, or officials are always unacceptable. By attending my son/daughter's athletic event, I understand it is just as much a privilege for me to participate as for my son/daughter to play and be a part of the team.

As a Christian parent of the Student-Athlete (s) named below, I understand my role in my child's practices, games, and the overall objective of being a good team member. I will support my child by providing transportation to and from games, practices, and tournaments. During the athletic season, I will encourage coaches, officials, other players, and my son/daughter positively.

By signing below, I understand that if I do not follow the above expectations, the Trinity athletic director, administrator, or pastor can dismiss me from a sporting event because of my words and/or actions. Any further incidents may result in parents or fans being banned from all games for the remainder of the given tournament or season.

***Please sign and detach the bottom portion and return it to the Athletic Director.***

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**Name of Student Athlete(s)**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_