

Saint Jerome School

Athletic Handbook

(Revised 10/16)



Member of the Central State Catholic League

1550 Farnham Street Columbus, WI 53925 (920) 623-5780

St. Jerome Sports Program Overview

The Athletic Program will operate in cooperation with St. Jerome Parish Education Programs. The St. Jerome Athletic Association will strive to provide a safe athletic facility for all students, participants and spectators. Participants will be given opportunities to grow through competition, coached instruction and team participation.

Mission Statement

Athletics provide an experience for boys and girls to grow in many ways. Through athletic programs at St. Jerome, students can enhance and develop a Christian attitude toward cooperation and competition. Athletes are provided an opportunity to develop physically, mentally and emotionally. The athletic program is intended to enhance and complement our education program. Participation in athletics, both as a player or a student spectator, is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the parish, school, team, and to the student. Therefore, effort, academic progress and student behavior are qualifications for participation in any St. Jerome athletic program.

Eligibility & Expectations

Participation in Parish athletic programs is open to all 5th through 8th grade students enrolled in and regularly attending either St. Jerome Parish School, St. Jerome Parish Religious Education Program or St. Patrick Parish Religious Education Program. If needed to field teams, 4th graders may be allowed to participate. Students may not participate for two school teams at the same time (i.e.: a religious education student cannot play for both St. Jerome and Columbus Middle School).

Participation in St. Jerome Athletics is a privilege that requires a high level of commitment to the program and teams. This commitment should be considered a priority when choosing other extracurricular activities. Player conduct, missing practice without cause or excessive absences can result in disciplinary actions. Most especially when a player loses self-control or engages in other conduct unbecoming of a Christian Student Athlete. Disciplinary actions are determined by the respective coach(s) and respective athletic director. St. Jerome Athletic program adheres to the policies and rules of the Central States Catholic League. www.cscbl.com & cscvl.wordpress.com

Code of Conduct

A Code of Conduct has been established for players, coaches, and parents. Players, coaches, and parents are required to commit to these standards by signing their respective code prior to the first practice.

Parental Concern

If a concern arises regarding your child, their team and their sport, please contact the coach most closely associated with the concern or question. If further discussion is required, the proper procedure would then be to meet with the following individuals in this order: Volleyball/Basketball Director, Athletic Director & Principal, Athletic Board, and then the Pastor. Confidentiality will be maintained by all involved.

Registration for Sports

A notice will be sent home asking for interested students prior to the beginning of each season and a notice will be posted in the church bulletin. Students in grades 5-8 are eligible. Volleyball is offered for the girls in the fall. Basketball is offered for boys and girls in the winter. Registration dates will be strictly enforced. New participants will NOT be accepted after rosters are sent to the league. Exceptions will only be made for new students.

Sports Teams

The number of teams at each level in each sport is determined by the number of registered participants and number of available coaches.

Uniforms

The volleyball and basketball uniforms are supplied by the athletic program. A portion of the athletic fees paid are used for future purchases of uniforms. Please take the utmost care of the uniform. Uniforms should only be worn for games and scheduled scrimmages by your coach.

Proper care and instructions: Machine wash inside out on delicate with cool water. HANG TO DRY. If wrinkled, hang or lay flat and the wrinkles should come out or put in the dryer on the gentle cycle for a few minutes. DO NOT IRON UNIFORMS!

When you are assigned your uniform, please bring any stains or defects to the attention of the Coach or Athletic Director. A fee may be assessed if the uniform is returned in poor condition. If the uniform is lost or cannot be worn again, a fee will be charged to replace the uniform.

Athletic Fees

An athletic fee is due each year of participation. Checks for athletic fees should be made out to St. Jerome Athletic Association. The amount of athletic fees is determined by the Athletic Board prior to the start of the season. Payment can be sent to the St. Jerome Athletic Association Treasurer, the Athletic Director, or handed in on the first day of scheduled practice.

Physicals & Concussion Form

Physical examinations are required the first year that a child participates in a sport and then every other year. A physical card can be obtained through the school office and must be completed by a licensed physician. Completed physical cards must be on file with the Athletic Director prior to participating in any sports program. The year following a physical an “alternate” form must be completed and kept on file with the previous year’s physical card.

A current concussion form for each sport the athlete participates in will need to be on file, signed by the athlete and parent(s).

Fund-raisers

Fund-raisers or tournaments may be held to help raise money for the Athletic Program. These are an important part of our program and ALL PARENTS OF PARTICIPANTS are needed to help make it a success. The need for fund raising will be assessed each year. All fund-raisers or tournaments need prior approval from the Athletic Board and the Parish Education Commission.

Parents Active Participation

Parents are expected to actively participate in the Parish athletic programs by fulfilling responsibilities and duties that are required of athletic parents. This consists of working home and away games for their sport, helping with a tournament if one is held during the year, or any additional events that would require parent participation. Both parents are needed to complete their duties.

Weather/School Closing

In the event of inclement weather, the Athletic Director will contact the coaches. Each participant will be contacted by the coach if the game is cancelled or postponed. If school is closed due to inclement weather and practice is still planned for the day, it is the Parent's right to use their discretion if the athlete will attend practice. Disciplinary action for missing practice due to inclement weather will not apply.

Athletic Banquet

An Athletic Banquet is held every spring to honor all sport participants. The Athletic Board plans the banquet each year. There is normally some type of food and beverage as well as a short awards program.

Emergency Plan

St. Jerome School has a written plan that outlines procedures in the event of an emergency. This may include fire, tornado, bomb threat or unwelcome visitors, etc. The Athletic Director has a copy of this procedure. Please contact the Athletic Director if you have any questions about this or would like a copy.

Athletic Suspension Policy

It is the policy of the Athletic Board that if any student participating in any Parish Athletic program given a detention or suspension (for any reason) by his/her school will be suspended from participating in all athletic activity (practices, league games, or tournament games) for a period of one week.

It is the policy of the Athletic Board that any student participating in any Parish Athletic program receiving a failing grade in one or more classes at any time by his/her school will be suspended from participating in all athletic activity (practices, league games, or tournament games) for a minimum of two weeks and until he/she raises all class grades to passing.

Any students participating in any Parish Athletic program absent because of illness from his/her school during the day may not practice or play in a game on the same day.

For Participants Attending St. Jerome School

The Principal of St. Jerome School will report all suspensions and cessation of suspensions affecting students at St. Jerome School to the Athletic Director and respective coaches.

For Participants Attending Other Schools

Participants attending any other school are required to submit copies of quarterly and mid-term grades from their school to the Principal of St. Jerome School to verify their academic eligibility to participate. Suspension because of failing grades will be reported to the Athletic Director and respective coaches. It is the responsibility of the participant to provide subsequent verification from his/her principal to the Principal of St. Jerome that any failing grades have been raised to passing status to resume participation.

Participants attending any other school are honor bound to immediately report any detention or suspension imposed by his/her school to their coach and immediately begin their suspension.

The Principal of St. Jerome School and Parish Priest may amend the current handbook at any time.