

**FIRST BAPTIST ACADEMY**  
**Extracurricular Guidelines**  
**For**  
**Parents and Students**



***"...but those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31***

**2023-2024**

***Revised June 2023***

## *Athletic Philosophy*

**Our Philosophy:** First Baptist Academy provides athletic and extracurricular programs to give students an opportunity to grow spiritually, physically, and personally through sports.

Student athletes will use their God-given talents to the best of their ability and in all things honor Jesus. An emphasis is placed on sportsmanship, teamwork, and having respect for self and others. Student athletes will learn to win and lose gracefully. Character development is one of the core values of athletics at FBA. Participation in athletics is considered a privilege and will carry responsibilities to the school, the team and community.

**Multisport Philosophy:** First Baptist Academy believes in the benefits of participating in multiple sports and encourages student-athletes to do so. Athletes can be challenged in different ways, both physically and mentally, and the skills learned in one sport are often transferable to other sports. It also gives student athletes opportunities to build relationships with different coaches and benefits their overall growth.

- **Multisport: Two Sports/One Season** Some athletes wish to participate in two sports during the same season. When this occurs, the athletic director must give approval after consulting with the coaches involved.

## *Parent / Student Responsibilities Continued*

### **Demonstrate Good Sportsmanship**

1. Respecting the coaching staff
  - Remember that coaching decisions are made for the benefit of the overall team
  - Understand that coaching decisions are based on various factors
  - Refrain from addressing the coach about the amount of time your student plays in a game
2. Respect officials
  - Model behavior that displays a Christ-like attitude and acceptance of their decisions
  - Appreciate the position of the officials and understand that they are doing their best to promote positive athletic competition
3. Respect other students, opponents, and fans
  - Show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team
  - Support the entire team in addition to your own student
  - Encourage others to display sportsman-like conduct

### **Model Appropriate Behavior**

- Emphasize the need for student to communicate directly to coach about their concerns
- If the concerns are not resolved by the student communicating with the coach, the parent may call or email the coach to discuss the issue or set an appointment to meet
- Contact the Athletic Director if additional help is required.

### **In addition to all of the above, students are expected to:**

- 1) Display a winning attitude by practicing and playing as hard as you possibly can.
- 2) Not participate in activities that are detrimental to yourself and/or others.

**Support Your Student**

1. In academics, reinforce the importance of:
  - Academics
  - Being on time to class
  - Completing and turning in assignments on time
  - Respecting teachers and peers
  
2. In extracurricular activities emphasize:
  - Participation in activities is a privilege, not a right
  - Students must maintain academic eligibility
  - Students must abide by the code of conduct
  - Students must follow the school/team policies
  - Students must respect his/her coach
  - Students must be responsible for his/her actions
  - Students are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship/character
  - Ensure that your student arrives on time to all home games, practices, meets, and bus departures
  - Pick up your student immediately after all meets, practices, games, and bus arrivals
  - ATTEND EVENTS WHILE KEEPING SPORT IN PERSPECTIVE

**\*\*Cost for home and away games will be as follows:**

**Students: \$2.00**  
**Adults: \$3.00**  
**Family Max: \$10.00**

**Tracy Lauderdale**, Athletic Director

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**HS Speech/Drama/Musical**

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**Athletic Committee Members**

Caleb Cook

John Jasper

Keith Albers

Kristine Miller

Kelly Moore

## *Guidelines and Requirements*

### **ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:**

A grade of 70% or better is required in all subject areas to participate in extracurricular activities. Any student failing to meet this academic criteria will be put on academic probation. While on probation, students will be given an academic success contract. The terms of the contract are that students will turn in all assignments on time and be actively engaged in class. Students will remain on academic probation until all grades are at or above 70%.

Students are still expected to attend all practices and competitions. Loss of playing time could result from probation which will be at the discretion of the AD.

If a student does not follow the terms of the contract, probation will be revoked, and they will be ineligible.

Students must be in attendance at school for at least half of the day to be eligible to compete in competitions.

\* No student will be ineligible based on a single recorded grade. Administrator may use teacher discretion in making a decision to place a student on academic probation\*

**EXTRACURRICULAR REGULATIONS:** Any student representing FBA may be suspended or dropped from any team or organization for any violation or act, either in school or out-of-school, which violates the FBA code of conduct for students. Some examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, gross disrespect, failure to obey/follow direction given, unsportsmanlike like conduct with coaches, other team, or officials.

**EXCUSED/UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** Team members will be excused from practice because of a planned absence due to a doctor or dental appointment, funerals, illness. Parents are expected to contact the coach or AD prior to missing a practice or game. Failure to give prior notification of an otherwise excused absence, or an absence for any reason not stipulated will be considered unexcused. Consequences for three unexcused absences in a season will result in a dismissal from the team.

*\*Any issue not covered here will be taken to the AD, Athletic Committee or Administration as necessary for resolution.*

**INSURANCE:** Students must also have a signed insurance waiver on file before students will be permitted to participate in any athletic activity. This waiver is simply verification that parents have adequate insurance cover-age on the student.

**PHYSICALS:** All students, in order to participate in extracurricular athletic activities, students must have a current **annual physical** on file before practices begin. Students will not be permitted to try out for any athletic activity without a valid/current physical on file.

**EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAM:** As we grow the extracurricular program, FBA will strive to appeal to the interests of all students. We believe that extracurricular activities are important in a student's total education and therefore encourage students to participate. All students must meet eligibility standards and have a current annual physical on file.

**CODE OF CONDUCT:** When students are admitted to First Baptist Academy, they represent not only the school itself, but First Baptist Church of O'Fallon (FBCO), and most importantly Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is expected that students conduct (and parents) will reflect favorably on the students themselves, FBA, and FBCO.

**PARTICIPATION FEE:** The participation fee is necessary for the school to continue to be able to offer extracurricular programs. The fee will go directly to coaching stipends, meet fees/tournament fees, and equipment needs. The fee per student, per activity, is **\$150**.

**UNIFORMS:** Uniforms are the property of First Baptist Academy and must be returned, in good condition, at the end of the season cleaned and ready for the next year. Uniforms needing to be replaced are at parent expense.

*\*Membership or participation in any extracurricular activity is a privilege, not a right.\**