



athletics

ATHLETIC OFFICE NUMBERS

Athletic Hotline

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(For cancellations due to inclement weather only)

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ATHLETIC APPEARANCE CODE

Student-athletes are expected to follow all of the appearance code standards of Charlotte Christian School at all team and school-related activities. Student-athletes are to dress neat and modest at all school-related activities. Shirts must be worn at all times.

ATHLETIC HONOR CODE

Athletes represent Christ, their parents, and their school in a co-curricular setting and are thus held to a high code of conduct. It is a privilege to participate in athletics at Charlotte Christian School. This privilege comes with a great deal of responsibility. We expect every student-athlete to demonstrate discipline, respect, kindness, responsibility and self-control at all times at all school-related programs, activities, and events both on and off campus. Please be aware that the following infractions will carry a penalty or consequence at the discretion of the coach, the director of athletics, or the principal responsible.

- Unexcused absence from practice
- Inappropriate behavior on or off the field
- Poor grades
- Any violation of the team commitment form or student honor code

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The Charlotte Christian School's athletic program is a wonderful opportunity to minister to the non-Christian community through exemplary actions, Christ-like attitudes, and a high level of individual and team athletic skill. The challenge for our athletes, parents, and coaches is to adhere to the Colossians 3:17 mandate.

The priorities of athletic participants are based on the mission of the school. The priorities are:

1. Honor God in all we do.
2. The Lord's Holy Name and reputation of Charlotte Christian School must be preserved and protected.
3. The spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of the individual athlete must take precedence over any individual or team athletic accomplishment. In addition, athletics at Charlotte Christian School is one primary means of accomplishing the school's mission. Spiritually, this mission seeks to glorify God through the development of Christian character and the pursuit of excellence.
4. Athletic excellence and accompanying awards should be taught and established as appropriate goals for any athlete or team.

What We Believe

We believe that the principles and lessons learned in athletics can be put into practice in the classroom, at home or through the local church. A microcosm of society, athletics allows the student to develop and use his or her God-given abilities to glorify God. Because the arena of competition is usually surrounded with pressure, the athlete is tested, and the true character is revealed. Consequently, the opportunity for character growth readily presents itself through athletic competition. Therefore, athletics at Charlotte Christian School is considered an integral part of a student-athlete's overall school curriculum.

Our Commitment to Excellence

Our philosophy can best be summed up by the phrase “doing our best as we strive for excellence.” We believe as Christians we are commanded by Scripture to always do our best. As believers, we are not to waste the talent God has given us by giving anything less than total commitment, through participation, and maximum effort. We also believe we should strive to be the best at what we do. Being the best at anything is a worthy and admirable goal of any Christian. We cannot always control whether we win or lose (as far as the final score goes), but we can always control whether we prepare and compete like a champion.

Role Model Coaches

We recognize that coaches at Charlotte Christian School play a significant and vital role in the success of our athletic program. As such, they have the responsibility to model Christ-like attitudes, behaviors, and desires for our student athletes while under pressure themselves. They are participants and teachers at the same time. One of the coach’s most pivotal roles is to work with athletes whose character, revealed under pressure, needs to become more Christ-like. In order to be considered an effective coach and role model, our coaches must also be thoroughly knowledgeable in their sport, demonstrate detailed preparation, motivate athletes, make adjustments during competition, and actively give meaning to each situation a team or individual athlete may face. Coaches have great responsibilities, but also great opportunities, to mold young lives for Christ.

Our Program

We believe each individual sport at Charlotte Christian School should be developed into a “program.” The head varsity coach shall be called the program director and be responsible to provide a consistent structure to ensure that similar philosophies are implemented at all levels of the program. The program should offer a quality experience while building pride among the participants. Parents should be valued as partners in this process of athletic education. Off-season conditioning, camps, etc., should be promoted for the serious athletes. College bound athletes and their parents should receive sound counsel on the potential of the student athlete. All activities within an individual sports program should exemplify the school’s commitment to a Christ-like witness, excellence, and reflect the school and athletic department’s policies, procedures and philosophy.

The Charlotte Christian School Athlete

We believe all Charlotte Christian School athletes should be diligent in preparation, relentless in effort, disciplined by training, respectful in actions, self-controlled with words, humble in spirit, and aggressive in pursuit of excellence without regard to the score, opponent, time, referee, etc. Our goal is to be humble in victory and gracious in defeat. When these qualities are demonstrated, good things usually happen: teams are successful, players are motivated, fans are supportive, enthusiastic parents are proud, prospective athletes want to join in participation, and very often non-believers are drawn to Christ.

ATHLETIC PHYSICALS AND FORMS

For a student to be allowed to try out for a team or practice with a team, he/she must complete the athletic authorization form within the past 13 months. The authorization form includes the following components: emergency contact information, current physical form, concussion form, and duty to warn statement. The authorization form can be found on the school’s website.

Injuries – All injuries should be treated with caution and handled with care and reported to our athletic trainers. The parents will be contacted in the event of all injuries and consulted with in any decisions made in regard to treatment and rehabilitation. Charlotte Christian School has athletic trainers to help with the care and rehabilitation of injuries. The trainer will recommend doctors and/or treatments to care for the student, but the final decision rests with the parents.

If an athlete sees a physician for any reason during their season it must be reported to the athletic trainers along with a note from the physician releasing them to return to their sport. Without that note, the athlete will **not** be allowed to return to their sport, practice or games. If an athlete has had surgery four months prior to their season, he/she must also bring a note to the athletic trainers in order to be released to return to their sport by the physician. If an athlete is not participating in P.E. due to an injury, he/she may not participate in any athletics, including free play, practice, of games, until released by their physician.

Parent Pre-Season Meetings – At least one parent of student athletes is required to attend a pre-season meeting with the coaching staff of that sport. The meeting shall be held before the first contest. Parents will be informed of all rules for their sport as well as the rules of Charlotte Christian School and the NCISAA.

ATHLETIC TEAM OPPORTUNITIES

The following **middle school sports** accept maximum participation and do not require tryouts:

- Cross Country (Grades 7 - 8)
- Football (Grades 7 - 8)
- Boys' and Girls' Swimming (Grades 7 - 8)
- Track (Grades 7 - 8)
- Wrestling (Grades 7 - 8)

The following **middle school sports** allow students to try out with a limited number of team members accepted:

- Baseball (Grades 7 - 8)
- Boys' and Girls' Basketball (Grades 7 - 8)
- Cheerleading (Grades 6 - 8)
- Boys' & Girls' Golf (Grades 7 - 8)
- Boys' Lacrosse (Grades 7 - 8)
- Boys' and Girls' Soccer (Grades 7 - 8)
- Softball (Grades 7 - 8)
- Boys' and Girls' Tennis (Grades 7 - 8)
- Girls' Volleyball (Grades 7 - 8)

The following **JV sports** allow students to try out with a limited number of team members accepted:

- Baseball (Grades 9 - 10)
- Boys' and Girls' Basketball (Grades 9 - 10)
- Boys' Lacrosse (Grades 9 - 10)
- Boys' & Girls' Soccer (Grades 9 - 10)
- Girls' Volleyball (Grades 9 - 10)

The following **JV and varsity sports** accept maximum participation and do not require tryouts:

- Cross Country (Grades 9 - 12)
- JV Football (Grades 9 - 10)
- Varsity Football (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' and Girls' Swimming (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' and Girls' Track (Grades 9 - 12)
- Wrestling (Grades 9 - 12)

The following **varsity sports** allow students to try out with a limited number of team members accepted:

- Baseball (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' and Girls' Basketball (Grades 9 - 12)
- Cheerleading (Grades 9 - 12)
- Girls' Dance (Grades 9 - 12)
- Golf (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' Lacrosse (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' and Girls' Soccer (Grades 9 - 12)
- Softball (Grades 9 - 12)
- Boys' and Girls' Tennis (Grades 9 - 12)
- Girls' Volleyball (Grades 9 - 12)

ATHLETIC VISION STATEMENT

The Charlotte Christian School Athletic Department is committed to develop Christ-like character among our student athletes and encourage them to develop their God-given athletic abilities to their maximum potential. This will be accomplished through a program that emphasizes Christian character and conduct, achievement in athletics, leadership skills, and respect for teammates and opponents.

COMPETITION

Charlotte Christian School coaches are committed to teaching Christ-honoring character traits and habits. In order to develop and foster teamwork, unity, honesty and integrity, they teach and guide with respect to create a Christ-centered learning environment.

We will make every effort to balance the developmental needs of each player and the desire to compete at the highest

level. We will play every game/match/event to win with integrity and honesty. Most importantly, we will respond to winning or losing with the grace, peace and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

Please note that for Middle School, Junior Varsity and Varsity teams at Charlotte Christian School, athletics is competitive and not recreational in nature.

DEPARTMENT CORE VALUES

1. Charlotte Christian School Athletics Commitment to Developing Christian Character
 - Coaches to Student Athletes
 - Athletic Department to Coaches
2. Commitment to be a strong Witness/Testimony
 - Charlotte Christian School Teams to Opposing Team and Fans
 - Athletic Program to Community
3. Preparation of Student Athletes
 - Discipline, Commitment, Perseverance, Teamwork, Maximum Effort
4. Commitment to Stewardship
 - Financial
 - Safe and Clean Facilities
5. Commitment to Athletic Excellence

DIRECTIONS TO AWAY GAMES

Directions are available on the Charlotte Christian School website at www.charlottechristian.com.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

(See eligibility guidelines in the Academics section)

EXPECTATIONS

Students, parents, coaches and fans are to demonstrate Christian principles in all circumstances. It is expected that everyone associated with Charlotte Christian athletics will support and encourage our players as well as one another. We cheer for Charlotte Christian School and not against the other teams.

Our student-athletes are expected to try their very best and to have an appropriate Christian attitude at all times. They are expected to behave in a Christ-centered manner at school, at home, and on the playing field. They are expected to be champions for Christ and positive role models to their peers and siblings.

Coaches, players, parents and fans represent Jesus Christ and Charlotte Christian School to the other teams. People are watching to see if we are different. God's people have a responsibility to witness at all times. Athletics is a great platform for impacting the culture for Christ. We must be gracious in victory and defeat and model behavior that exemplifies Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior at all times.

Failure to act in this manner may result in removal from the event and/or additional discipline.

GAME SCHEDULES

Game schedules will be published prior to the start of every season. Changes will occur from time to time, however, we will try to avoid changing games, and we will make every effort to keep parents and players informed of all changes as soon as possible. Changes will be updated regularly on the website at www.charlottechristian.com and the hotline at (704) 366-1367, ext. 7070 for cancellations or changes due to inclement weather ONLY.

GAME TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION

1. It is policy that all Charlotte Christian School teams will receive transportation to away contests. The mode of transportation will be by either Charlotte Christian activity bus, a chartered bus, or when parents have completed the proper permission forms, students are allowed to drive.
2. Middle school teams will receive one-way transportation to 'in-town' away contests by a Charlotte Christian activity bus. It is the parents' responsibility to make sure their athletes have a ride home from away contests. Out of town conference contests include Cannon School and Lake Norman Charter School– Charlotte Christian will provide transportation to and from Cannon School and Lake Norman Charter School.
3. If the junior varsity team travels with the varsity team, they will have transportation home from away contests. Likewise, if the coach of the team (be it varsity, JV or middle school) drives the bus to the event, that team will have transportation home from the event.
4. Students may be released to their parents after an away contest with verbal consent by the coach.
5. Occasionally, students may drive and/or meet at away events only with the consent of the coach and written permission from parents if driving from the school. This is optimal when a student lives closer to the facility where the contest is being played than they are to Charlotte Christian School.
6. Coaches are responsible to stay with student-athletes returning from off campus events at night until all students have been picked up. Likewise, a coach must remain at an away event until all students have been picked up.

HANDLING PROBLEMS/SOLVING DISPUTES

All disputes at Charlotte Christian School, including those related to athletic matters, should be handled with the appropriate amount of respect and honor. All student-athletes are highly encouraged to discuss any issue with their coach. All parents are asked to encourage their children to discuss any problem they have with their coach. If a parent has a problem with the coach, they should discuss the matter with the Director of Athletics.

NOTE: Lack of playing time is not considered a dispute and should not be addressed with the coach. (Refer to Playing Time Policy)

If the situation is not resolved, the offended is encouraged to seek a solution by speaking to the next person in authority. In simple terms, an athlete should approach the coach first, the Director of Athletics second, the appropriate principal next, and, if necessary, take the matter to the Charlotte Christian School Head of School. In the unlikely event that an appropriate solution is still not forthcoming, the matter must ultimately be resolved by the board of trustees. **It is absolutely necessary that this chain-of-command be followed specifically. If not, the upper level authorities will direct the offended party to solve the problem at the appropriate level.**

HAZING POLICY

Charlotte Christian School and the athletic department do not condone or accept any form of hazing by its students or by any member of the school community.

Hazing is defined as any activity or attitude that breaches reasonable standards of mutual respect and expects a certain member or members of a team or group (both formal and informal) to endure ridicule, and/or embarrassing or humiliating tactics.

Examples include, but are not limited to,

- Requirement of a member(s) of a group to perform duties not expected of other members
- Deprivation of privileges granted to other members of a group
- Isolation of a certain member or members socially
- Requirement of a certain member or members of a group to have knowledge not expected of other members

If the administration is made aware of any form of hazing, the team and/or group in question will be suspended while an investigation is pursued. The team or group may be required to forfeit games, events, and/or their entire season. Individuals who participate in the hazing will be subject to the discipline committee of the appropriate school division.

Please note that the school's administration reserves the right to define and/or determine what constitutes hazing in regards to Charlotte Christian students.

INJURIES BEFORE OR DURING TRYOUTS

Students who are injured during the tryout process or who are not able to begin the tryout process may begin/finish tryouts at a later time with the following guidelines:

- Injury must be documented by a Charlotte Christian School Athletic Trainer.
- Student must attend tryouts/practices unless he/she is receiving treatment or performing rehabilitation on the injury.
- Student/parent must understand the injured student is not guaranteed a position on the team once the injury heals. He/she may simply begin the tryout process again depending on the length of the recovery process.
- Director of Athletics will determine the deadline for injured student to return to the team to complete tryouts based on length of season and other factors.

NO QUIT POLICY

If a student is fortunate enough to be selected for a position on one of the Charlotte athletic teams, it is important that he/she makes a firm commitment to that team. Therefore, quitting a team after being selected for the team is strongly

discouraged. If any student athlete quits a team after being selected as a member of that team, that student athlete could be prohibited from trying out for another Charlotte Christian School co-curricular team (drama, other sport, etc.) during the same season. The possibility of the student not being allowed to tryout for a sport next season will also be considered. Furthermore, it should be clearly understood that the action of any student athlete quitting a team will certainly be among the criteria considered by coaches of subsequent teams on which a student athlete desires a position. Exceptions may occur if both coaches agree it is in the best interest of the student and is approved by the Director of Athletics.

NON-RECRUITMENT

In an effort to ensure a high probability of student success, Charlotte Christian School accepts students based on the following criteria: readiness to learn, appropriate academic skills, self-discipline, academic potential and leadership capabilities. Charlotte Christian fully examines academic readiness of all applicants, giving highest consideration to students whose needs it can meet best and who can contribute most to the school environment.

As a member of the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association (NCISAA), Charlotte Christian adheres to its policies and procedures regarding enrollment. Charlotte Christian will not actively recruit athletes to play sports at the school. No coach, faculty member, administrator, staff member, or parent volunteer will propose or suggest, either directly or indirectly, that a student shall be enrolled at Charlotte Christian for the sole purpose of competing as an athlete.

If a prospective student or his/her representative or parent initiates inquiry into potential eligibility for athletic competition, any coach, faculty member, administrator, staff member or parent volunteer will refer such inquiry to the Director of Admissions. No promise of roster selection, playing time, recognition or awards will be made to any prospective student-athlete.

There will be no preferential treatment with consideration to athletic or artistic abilities unless the candidates are equally qualified and then these factors will be considered during the enrollment process.

After enrollment, Charlotte Christian School considers tuition assistance applications based on the financial needs of families who apply and qualify. School and Student Service (SSS), a third party company, is used to provide objectivity and consistency in the financial aid procedure.

Charlotte Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, tuition assistance program, athletic or other school-administered programs.

OPEN GYM

- To be eligible for open gym a student must be enrolled at Charlotte Christian School. Students that are in-season are not eligible for off-season activities. An exception may be granted if both coaches and the Director of Athletics agree.

OUR PARENTS

Parents of student athletes have a responsibility to both their child and to the team. Without strong parental support, the student athlete will not be able to achieve his/her greatest potential and/or the team may suffer. **It is important that parents provide positive reinforcement and understand their role as being part of the team.** Parents, as well as players,

should be supportive and encourage coaches and teammates. Parents are not coaches and learning to trust coaches is a key step to learning the value of the life lesson experiences that athletics teaches. **It is also important that parents honor the Lord when attending athletic events.** In order for Charlotte Christian athletic program to be successful, coaches, student athletes, and parents must make a firm commitment to glorify God at all times.

PLAYING TIME POLICY

Generally speaking, the lower the level of athletic involvement, the more desirable Charlotte Christian School finds it to stress athlete playing time provisions. As a general guideline, middle school coaches will make a conscious effort to play all team members for as much time as is practical. Therefore, it is entirely possible that some athletes may not play in every game.

Charlotte Christian School athletic philosophy is different, however, when athletes compete at the junior varsity and varsity level. While it is true that our coaches and administrative personnel believe it to be important to broaden the experience of Charlotte Christian School athletes, and that broadening is enhanced by playing time, it is also an important goal of the Charlotte Christian School athletic program to strive toward excellence. **Therefore, no minimum per game playing time provisions or minimum numbers of athletic meets in which athletes must compete are established at the junior varsity or varsity level. Playing time decisions are left up to the individual coaches.**

Off-Season

- To be eligible for skill development athletic activities a student must be enrolled at Charlotte Christian School.
- Students that are in-season are not eligible for off-season activities. An exception may be granted if both coaches agree as well as the Director of Athletics. An in-season athlete will not displace an athlete who is not currently on a team.

SPIRIT PACKS

Spirit packs promote team spirit, school spirit and community spirit. The items in a spirit pack will foster a oneness and team unity. This unity promotes and encourages individual and team discipline. This unity has a positive impact on the Charlotte Christian community.

- Parents are responsible for the cost of the items in a spirit pack.
- Students own and keep the attire in a spirit pack.
- Coaches will discuss the specific spirit pack for the team in parent meetings.

SPORTS AWARDS

The middle school has a fall, winter and spring sports programs that may be combined with recognitions of other departments. No individual athletic awards are given in middle school. The upper school has a fall, winter and spring sports assembly recognition program that does include the presentation of individual awards.

STARTING A SEASON LATE

A student may start a season late if the reasons are acceptable to the coach, the Director of Athletics, and the principal. If a cut has been made, the student must go through a two-three day tryout period. If the student is determined to be good enough, they may be added to the team. No one may be cut to make room for this student. If a student transfers into

Charlotte Christian School once a season has already begun, they will be considered as a new student with new opportunities and will be permitted to try out for a team (this does not apply to cheerleading).

TARDINESS & ATTENDANCE

All student-athletes at Charlotte Christian School are expected to attend every class on time and be properly prepared to learn and contribute to the learning process.

A student must be in attendance two full periods of the day on a 4-period day (excluding lunch) to be involved in any co-curricular activities that take place that day (event, performance, production or game). Exceptions may be requested to the principal for unavoidable absences (funerals, delayed medical appointments, etc.) that do not allow attendance in a minimum of two classes.

Each member of a Charlotte Christian School athletic team must assume the responsibilities associated with such a position. The athlete has an ethical obligation to the team and the school. This obligation includes regular attendance at practices and athletic contests.

It is possible, of course, that emergency situations may arise (e.g., illness, death in a family, etc.) that render it impossible for an athlete to attend a practice session or an athletic contest. Absences should be few and far between and arranged with the coach as early as possible. Absences from practices or contests due to academics shall be documented with a note from the student's teacher.

When athletic team practices occur on school vacation days, all varsity athletes are expected to be in attendance. If a conflict arises and the athlete may have to miss a practice, it is of utmost importance that the athlete communicates this with the coach immediately, knowing that consequences may follow. Summer and off-season activities are strongly encouraged but cannot be required by coaches.

Absences from practice sessions or athletic contests will be handled in the following manner:

Absence from Practice

*Excused absence

No action

*Unexcused absence (1 st offense)	Conference with coach & discipline of athlete
*Unexcused absence (2 nd offense)	Suspension from the next contest (or 33% of contests that week)
*Unexcused absence (3 rd offense)	Dismissal from team (Athlete forfeits all awards)

Absence from Athletic Contest

*Excused absence	No action
*Unexcused absence (1 st offense)	Suspension from next two contests (66% of contests that week)
*Unexcused absence (2 nd offense)	Dismissal from team (Athlete forfeits all awards)

TEAM/PLAYER SELECTION

All teams may have a designated tryout period to be determined by the head coach. Academically eligible students will be selected based on attitude, performance, coach-ability and talent. The number of players on a team will be large enough to form a strong competitive team, but not so large as to deter from the individual attention of each player.

UNIFORMS

School team uniforms will be distributed at the beginning of the season. The coaches are responsible for distributing and collecting team uniforms. Players should not wear uniforms during the school day. It is the responsibility of the player to:

- Take proper care of the uniform.
- To have the uniform ready for games.
- To clean and return uniforms after the season.
- To pay for the cost of any uniform he/she loses.

WEIGHT TRAINING

Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in after school weight training and conditioning, Monday through Friday 3:15 - 4:30 p.m. or at additional posted times.

Revised as of 7/2/19