Dear Cypress Christian Parents and Athletes,

“Armor On – Built for Battle” is our theme for the coming year as both athletes and coaches prepare to meet new challenges, encounter tough competition, and stand for Jesus Christ. We cling to Ephesians 6:10-20; suiting up, knowing the battles will be tough, we stand ready, knowing that God is on our side.

The Warrior coaching staff is prepared to help each student-athlete meet the challenges that will come during the 2017-2018 seasons. As we plan, strategize, and practice, our number one goal is to bring honor to Jesus Christ. It takes everyone - students, coaches, and parents working together to ensure this.

The success of Cypress Christian athletics is measured by how we compete, not by the points we score. It is a challenge in every sport, but we are prepared to be the Lord’s Warriors from beginning to end.

We ask you to join us as we seek to be our best for Him. Warrior Athletics is moving to a new stage and we commit to sending the message of honor to Jesus Christ.

I encourage you to seek out coaches, get to know them, and share desires with them; at the same time I ask that you give the coach the opportunity to implement the big picture. Ask questions when needed, read this handbook, and prepare to support each student-athlete in every sport. Commit to attending every game or meet possible.

Finally, I ask you to join with the coaching staff to pray daily for our teams and our players. Pray that each individual who wears the Warrior uniform will uphold the standards set before them and prepare for the battles that lie ahead. Join with us as we choose to place our “Armor On.”

In His Service,

Marsha Martin
Athletic Director
CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
COACHING STAFF

Managing Athletic Director:  Jeff Mudrow
Athletic Director:          Marsha Martin
Athletic Administrator:  Jacob Spenn
Office Assistant:          Sandra Boyd

Coaching staff for the following sports is listed on the school website under the Athletics tab.

Fall

- Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Football
- Volleyball

Winter

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Swimming

Spring

- Baseball
- Golf
- Softball
- Track and Field
Purpose of Cypress Christian Athletics

Cypress Christian School involves its student-athletes in interscholastic sports in order to, first and foremost, glorify and honor God with the talents and abilities He has given. We also believe athletics is a great tool to build Christian character, teach discipline, and to learn to face adversity and challenges with a steady eye, a courageous spirit, and reliance upon the ultimate authority, Jesus Christ. Student-athletes are to display good sportsmanship and honor the Lord through their participation.

Participation

- Participation in athletics is a privilege. This privilege will be available as long as the student displays proper conduct on and off the field/court and maintains appropriate academic progress. Since it is a privilege, it can be lost based on misconduct.
- Because of limitations with facilities or the natural limits of team rosters, coaches may limit the size of teams.
- Coaches will make every effort to teach and guide each player, but participation in each game is not guaranteed; it is earned through practice and effort. It is the coach’s place to determine playing time for each student-athlete.

The responsibility for choosing each team is made by the coach and his/her staff. Coaches will outline criteria for making the team prior to the first practice. Players and parents must recognize the commitment level that will be needed to participate in the school athletic program. Trips, work schedules, and outside activities must be scheduled carefully. A commitment to a team requires time. A student on a school team is agreeing to make the commitment to practice each day throughout the season and to keep absences from practices and games minimal.

We encourage our students to participate in more than one sport. In fact, studies prove this is most beneficial for the student as multiple sports reduce injuries and burnout, while increasing enjoyment and motivation, which in turn produces better athletes. It is important to understand that with season overlap on the high school level, this may put a student athlete behind peers in a current season when coming from one sport to the next. An athlete is not penalized for playing another sport. Nevertheless, others on their team that were not occupied with finishing a prior season in a different sport will have accomplished more pre-season and beginning season team training that may naturally have an impact on team selections, position and leadership placement, and playing time.


**Warrior Standards in Athletics**

We expect our student-athletes, parents, and coaches to exemplify the Character of Christ as we compete in athletics. In order to accomplish this, there must be a higher level of accountability. Student-athletes have both the privilege and the responsibility of representing our school. These students are representatives of Christ to those who see them. This increased visibility demands that the students be held to a higher standard of conduct that is glorifying to God, both in school and out of school. “So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.” (Philippians 2:15-16a)

**Warrior Standards**

The following are character qualities we are seeking to build in our student athletes through CCS athletics. Each is drawn from God’s Word. Our expectation is not that of achieving perfection, but of growing in conformity to Christ in very visible and very practical ways.

**Courage**

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Standing up for my convictions

**Endurance**

"Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfected of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:1-2

We keep our eyes fixed on the higher goals.

We don’t quit.

**Enthusiasm**

“Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before Him with joyful singing.” Psalm 100: 2

Carry out each task promptly and eagerly.

We have fun.

**Faith**

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1

The Lord is in control.

We Believe!

**Humility**

“For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.” Romans 12:3

We don’t boast.
God is responsible for our abilities and successes.

**Integrity**

“And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and favor with God and men.” Luke 2:52

We are honest.
We play by the rules.

**Love**

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.” 1 John 4:11-12

We care about our teammates and coaches.
We care about the other team.

**Respect**

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor” Romans 12:10

We respect each other and our opponents.
We are always on time.
We are always prepared.

**Self-Control**

“And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and men.” Luke 2:52

We can handle each situation.
We respond in a godly manner.
We maintain our composure.

**Strength**

“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

I am prepared for anything.
I do not rely on myself only.
We show no weaknesses.

**Teamwork**

“And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common.” Acts 2:44

We are committed to each other.
We play together.
We encourage each other.

**Trust**

“In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?” Psalm 56:11

We believe in each other.
We believe in our coach.
**Affiliations**

Cypress Christian School is a member of Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) for all high school sports. The middle school is a member of the Houston Area Private Schools (HAPS) for all sports excluding football. Our middle school football program is a member of the Houston Private Jr. High Football Conference. The school must adhere to all eligibility requirements set forth by these organizations.

**High School:**
**Football: TAPPS Division III District 6**
Bay Area Christian
Beaumont Legacy
Cypress Christian School
Lutheran North
Magnolia Legacy
Northland Christian
Pasadena First Baptist Academy
Rosehill Christian
Sugarland Logos Prep
The Woodlands Christian

**Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Baseball, Track & Field: TAPPS Division III District 5**
Bay Area Christian
British School of Houston
Cypress Christian School
Lutheran North
Northland Christian
St. Thomas Episcopal
Sugarland Logos Prep
The Woodlands Christian

**Soccer: TAPPS Div. III**
**Girls:**
British School of Houston
Frassati
Logos Prep
Northland Christian
St. Joseph, Bryan
St. Thomas Episcopal

**Boys:**
Allen Academy, Bryan
Bay Area Christian
Brazos Christian
Frassati
Lutheran North
Northland Christian
St. Joseph, Bryan

**Middle School:**
**Football: Houston Private Jr. High Football Conference**
Bay Area Christian
Cypress Christian
Faith West
Grace
Legacy, Magnolia
Northland Christian
Rosehill Christian
Trinity
TWCA
All other sports:

Houston Area Private Schools (HAPS)
Alpha Omega Academy
Conroe Covenant
Cypress Christian
Faith West
Magnolia Legacy
Northland Christian
Providence Classical
Rosehill Christian
TWCA

Risks of Participation

It must be understood that there are obvious risks involved in athletic participation. Injuries can occur even when every safety precaution has been taken. Cypress Christian School will make every effort to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the athletes.

Sports Offered at Cypress Christian School

High School

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Soccer</td>
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<td>Swim</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Softball</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Golf</td>
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</tbody>
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Middle School

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Boys</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Track and Field</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Softball</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Team Rules/School Rules

A coach has the right to establish team rules. These pre-approved rules will be communicated to the team at the beginning of the season. These rules would include, but not be limited to, practice attendance, conduct expectations, lateness to practice and games, and care of uniforms.

The Parent/Student Handbook applies to all students and all sports. All of these rules will be followed.

Athletic Issues Resolution and Review Process

The Managing Athletic Director (MAD) and Athletic Director (AD) oversee all school athletic programming while varsity coaches generally provide support and guidance to assistant coaches, junior varsity coaches, and middle school program coaches for their sport.

Questions or concerns about a specific team should first be addressed to your student’s coach. If your questions are not sufficiently addressed, an appointment may be made with the head coach of that sport. If the matter is not resolved, then the issue may be brought to the Athletic Director or Managing Athletic Director for review, often in consultation with the student’s principal. If resolution is still not obtained, the matter may be brought to the Executive Director’s office for final review.

Parents are strongly encouraged to support the decisions of the coach. While you may not agree with every decision of a coach, how and when you express your feelings may have a negative effect on your child and on the team. The time immediately following a contest is an emotional time, so please refrain from approaching a coach with issues at that time. A good standard to follow is “right time, right place, and right spirit.”

Conflict Resolution

One of our goals is to instill in our student-athletes a sense of ownership and responsibility for their actions. Therefore, it is important that student-athletes learn necessary communication skills and learn how to resolve conflicts in a God-honoring way. Please note the order of the conflict resolution policy:

1. Player - Coach - role, improvement, etc.
2. Parent - Player - Coach
3. Parent - Player - Coach - Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director

If the final meeting provides no resolution, further steps can be determined.
CCS Student Athletes

Participating in the CCS athletics program is a privilege. Athletes are students first and should strive to conduct themselves with excellence in the classroom. Athletes with missing assignments, failing grades or disciplinary reports noted in RenWeb may receive additional consequences from the CCS coaching staff.

Tryouts for Teams

All coaches may hold try-outs for teams. Cuts or placement on Varsity, JV, or A or B teams are based on talent, attitude, sportsmanship, ability to work with others, coachability, team size, and player needs. Athletes will be observed in skills and drills and possible scrimmage situations. The coach will then make selections and cuts based on ability, commitment, character, attitude and team needs.

In order to build a strong program with the facilities and size of coaching staff of CCS, we must maintain teams with numbers we can train and play. A student should always feel free to talk to the coach about why he/she did not make a team so that student can improve for the next year. MS team rosters will be emailed home at the end of the tryout process.
CCS coaches strive to put God first and seek His guidance as we make decisions concerning our students.

**Joining a Team**

Teams with Tryouts

- All athletes must participate in scheduled try-outs.
- An athlete who has a medical situation or other exigent matter which justifies an exception at the time of try-outs, must notify the coach by written communication in advance of the try-outs. Such exceptions to this policy must be presented to school administration for review and approval.
- The varsity coach will make the final determination on which athletes are placed on the team roster.
- Returning varsity athletes may automatically be placed on the team roster based on previous contributions to the team.
- Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball, Baseball, Softball and Cheer are teams that may hold competitive try-outs.

Teams without Tryouts

- Athlete must participate in the first official scheduled practice unless injury or family emergency prevents attendance.
- An athlete who has a medical situation or other exigent matter which justifies an exception at the start of practices, must notify the coach by written communication in advance of the try-outs. Such exceptions to this policy must be presented to the school administration for review and approval.
- Football, Cross Country, Track, Swimming and Golf are teams that do not hold competitive try-outs.

➢ Please Note - Current CCS students wishing to join the high school football team must participate in spring football.

**Leaving a Team**

We want all students to have fun and be willing to try out new sports. However, for the sake of making sure a team can complete a season with the proper amount of athletes and so the athletics department can order the correct amount of equipment, it is important to understand that joining a CCS athletics team is a season long commitment. Therefore, leaving the team prior to the end of the season is highly discouraged.

- An athlete may leave a team prior to the following dates without further athletic eligibility penalties being applied.
  - Football
    1. Current CCS students – conclusion of spring football
    2. New CCS students – prior to the first practice held after completion of the first scheduled scrimmage
All other CCS athletics teams – prior to the conclusion of the second week of regular season practice or the first scheduled scrimmage (whichever is sooner)

- Except in the case of injury, material academic or disciplinary concerns, family emergencies, or special situations deemed appropriate by the administration, an athlete who chooses to leave a CCS high school athletics team will not be allowed to participate in any further CCS athletic teams for one calendar year from the date the athlete is removed from the team roster.

- Except in the case of injury, material academic or disciplinary concerns, or family emergencies, an athlete who chooses to leave a CCS middle school athletics team will not be allowed to participate in the next consecutive athletics season. Leaving a spring sport will result in not participating in the next fall season.

- No CCS athlete who leaves a team during the season will be allowed to join a different team within the same season.

- Requests for exceptions for injuries, academic concerns, or family emergencies may be presented to the school administration.

- An athlete who has completed a full season but is not planning to continue participating with the team in future seasons is encouraged to schedule a meeting with the varsity coach to discuss this decision.

**Age Restrictions and TAPPS Rules of Eligibility**

1. A high school student athlete may not turn 19 before September 1 of the school year.

2. A student-athlete may participate in athletics during a normal program of high school courses over a period of four consecutive calendar years after the student first enrolls in the ninth grade.

3. A transfer student must be in compliance with section 104 of the TAPPS By-Laws in order to be eligible for district play of the play-offs. A student must have been in attendance on or before:
   - September 5 – football, cross country, and volleyball
   - November 7 – basketball and soccer
   - January 23 – baseball, golf, softball, and track & field

4. A middle school student may not play more than three years while in middle school.

5. All seniors must complete transfer forms. The District must send forms to TAPPS prior to August 15 of the new school year for any and all sports. This date is for transferring seniors only.
**Practice Policy**

Teams will have specific practice days and times. The coach will present this information in the team meeting at the beginning of the season.

When high school practices are scheduled during school holidays, student athletes are expected to be at practice if in town. If a student knows he/she will be out of town, that student is to let the coach know in advance. Coaches will not punish any player for missing these practices. However, a player may not start or play simply because that player is not current on plays learned during these practices.

MS practices will be limited during school holidays. The same rules that apply to high school practices will be in effect.

Practices on Wednesdays will end by 5:30 p.m., and no team may practice on Sundays. An exception to this is high school golf if playoffs are on Mondays. Coaches are responsible for handing out practice schedules at the beginning of the season. You may also see them on the school online calendar.

Parents are welcome at practices but must sit in the stands or away from the team and observe only. Coaches do have the right to close practice, as long as it is announced beforehand.

Outdoor sports practices will be called early due to bad weather, especially lightning. You will be notified when practices are cancelled.

Coaches spend a tremendous amount of time away from their families during the season. Forcing a coach to wait for parents long after a practice is finished is unfair to the coach. It is important that athletes are picked up promptly at the end of practice.

**Hazing/Peer Harassment Policy**

Hazing or peer harassment will not be tolerated. All athletes must be given the opportunity to compete without the threat of any type of abuse. Coaches have a responsibility to maintain a safe and positive environment for all athletes. Students are encouraged to notify coaches or other school personnel of instances of hazing or harassment.

**Use of Profanity**

**Athletic Practices**
1. If profanity is used during a practice, the player is to be immediately corrected by the coach and is to be assigned a discipline as may be appropriate at the discretion of the coach.
   - Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   - Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   - Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb
2. If profanity is used a second time in the season during a practice, the player is to be immediately corrected by the coach and is to be assigned a discipline as may be appropriate at the discretion of the coach. Additionally, the player is dismissed from the next practice, and has their playing time cut in half in the next game.
   • Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   • Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   • Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb

3. If profanity is used a third time, the player is dismissed from the team.
   • Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   • Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   • Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb
   • Player may appear before athletic council to request re-admittance to the team; such a request for re-instatement can only happen once each academic year

Note: Principal and/or Dean of Students may assign other disciplinary measures up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Athletic Games
1. If profanity is used during a game, the player is benched for the remainder of the game.
   • Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   • Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   • Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb

2. If profanity is used a second time in the season during a game, the player is benched for the remainder of the game, and for the following game.
   • Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   • Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   • Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb

3. If profanity is used a third time, player is dismissed from the team.
   • Parent is contacted and informed of the incident by the coach the same day
   • Appropriate Principal and/or Dean of Students is informed by the coach the same day (may be by e-mail)
   • Principal/Dean of Students ensures incident is recorded in RenWeb

Note: Principal and/or Dean of Students may assign other disciplinary measures up to and including suspension or expulsion.
Ejections from Games

If a student athlete is ejected from a game, there is a penalty which is enforced by CCS and TAPPS. For the first offense, the student athlete will not be able to play in the next game on the schedule. For football, TAPPS has made the decision to have a player only sit out the first half of the next game, due to a shorter game schedule. The offense will be reported to TAPPS by Cypress Christian and the fine will be paid by the student athlete. Fine amounts are set by TAPPS, and will be increased as the post-season progresses for ejections through State.

For the second offense, the student athlete will be immediately dismissed from the team. The offense will be reported to TAPPS by Cypress Christian and the fine, which increases, will be paid by the student athlete. The student athlete may petition the Head Coach, Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director, and Principal to return to the team.

If the student athlete is allowed back on the team by Administration and a third offense occurs, that student will be dismissed from the team and will not be allowed on the team for the rest of the season. The ejection will be reported to TAPPS by Cypress Christian and the student athlete will be required to pay the fine. There will be no petition to return to the team allowed.

Attendance Guidelines

Secondary students must be in school and remain for the entire day to participate in any co-curricular practices, competitions and performances scheduled for that day. A note from your doctor needs to be turned in to the school when you have an appointment. Additional exceptions to policy must be approved by administration.

Academic Eligibility

CCS believes that participation in co-curricular activities is an important component of a student’s educational experience. However, when that participation interferes with the student’s academic performance, we believe it is in the best interest of the student to step aside from co-curricular activities in order to focus efforts on the primary purpose of education. Therefore,

- If a student is failing a subject (grade less than 70%) at the end of a quarter, he/she may continue to practice but becomes ineligible to play in a game/meet for a period of three weeks. The student must be passing to be eligible to play at the end of this three-week period.
  - Students failing more than one subject are not permitted to participate in co-curricular activities for the quarter.
- Participation in a co-curricular activity is a privilege. This privilege will be available as long as the student displays proper conduct on the field/court and in the classroom.
- Students of CCS represent their school, their parents and their Lord at all times. Therefore, the expectation of appropriate conduct also applies beyond the school setting. Serious violations of the school standards found in section 6.14 of the Parent-Student Handbook may result in loss of co-curricular eligibility.
• All secondary students will have their academic progress checked on a weekly basis. Individual academic improvement plans may be developed by the school administration if the student is in need of specific academic improvement.
  o Academic improvement plans may limit or prohibit participation in co-curricular activities.
• If the parent has financial obligations for tuition that remain outstanding, the student may be declared ineligible regardless of grade or conduct status.
• A student who receives a one-half or full day detention while a member of a co-curricular group/team will be required to miss one game/meet/performance, not including the games/meets/performances missed while serving the detention. This game/meet/performance will be the next one on the schedule. Neither the student nor the coach may choose a different event.
• A student who receives a suspension will be immediately dismissed from the team, but may petition the secondary administration to return to the team. This will be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis.

**Athletic Physicals**

Every student-athlete must have a completed physical on file before tryouts and beginning practice. Be sure that one parent signs the completed physical form before turning it in to the office.

Physical forms are available on the website or in the Athletic Office.

**Required Student Medical Insurance**

Proof of medical insurance coverage is required to be submitted in addition to a sports physical and other athletic department forms prior to a student participating in school sports/co-curricular activities. If a student plans to participate in any athletic program this year, proof of medical insurance either through a family’s medical insurance policy or through a policy purchased from Texas Kids First Insurance should be submitted through RenWeb by the first day of school.

For more information on Texas Kids First, go to [https://www.texaskidsfirst.com/Plans.aspx](https://www.texaskidsfirst.com/Plans.aspx).

**Emergency Information and Acknowledgement of Rules**

1. The Coach will have a copy of emergency information with him/her at all times.
2. Each student must turn in an Acknowledgement of Rules form signed by the student and the parent. This is kept on file in the Athletic Office.

Forms will be available on the website under Athletics, in the Athletic Office, or from the coach.
**Athletic Fee**

To help offset the cost of the athletic program, each student-athlete must pay an athletic fee per sport. These fees are billed to your account once the team roster is set. These fees are *non-refundable*. There are no exceptions.

**Uniforms**

Student-athletes will be issued team uniforms and additional items as appropriate. The uniforms and additional items are the property of Cypress Christian School. The uniforms are only to be worn for the athletic contest, not for practice or casual wear. All other sports will have team shirts that may be worn on game days. A practice uniform will be issued by the coach. These are the only uniforms students may practice in. Extra practice shirt or shorts may be purchased from the coach. Practice uniforms are kept by the student.

Uniforms that are lost, stolen, damaged, or have unusual wear need to be replaced by the athlete. Cost will be determined by the age of the article and will be billed to your account.

All uniforms and bags will be turned in to the coach on a designated day the week after the season ends.

**CCS Official Practice Gear and Game Day Shirts**

CCS athletic clothing shall use only navy, gray or white as the main colors; Columbia blue may be used as an accent color only. All athletic clothing designs must receive approval from the athletics administration prior to placing the order. Practice gear should remain consistent for at least three sports seasons so that clothing in good condition issued in previous years may be reused.

**Travel**

All student-athletes will travel with the team to away games. Coaches may allow student-athletes to ride home with their parents, but the Coach must be aware of this. No athlete may ride home with another family unless written or direct verbal permission by that student’s parents has been given to the coach prior to the game.

Coaches will provide parents with expected arrival times for away games. It is expected that parents will respect the coaches’ time and be prompt in picking up their children after home and away games.

**Emergency Plan for Changes**

When necessary to report sudden cancellations of games or changes in locations that were made last minute, the school may use various technology resources to immediately notify the parents of the team with specific instructions/information.
Appropriate Dress

Each student-athlete is responsible to dress appropriately while attending away competitions. The wearing of inappropriate attire could result in removal from team competition on the specific day the infraction occurs. See your student handbook to understand the dress code. We take pride in our appearance.

For athletic ceremonies and other special events, students must be in compliance with the general Student Dress Code Co-curricular Guidelines. Failure to do so may result in the student being sent home to change and return in appropriate attire. Dress Code Co-curricular Guidelines are copied directly below.

Female Students Co-curricular: Students attending school-sponsored functions, including home and away activities, are to wear clothing that reflects a biblical standard of modesty and appropriateness for school sponsored activities. The following guidelines for non-uniform attire are to be followed: 1) Shirts must have a sleeve and cover midriff when sitting or raising arms. Shirts should not be sheer, overly tight or have a low neckline without an appropriate layer of clothing underneath; 2) Dresses should not be sheer, overly tight or have a low neckline without an appropriate layer of clothing underneath, and skirt length must be no higher than five inches above the crease at the back of the knee. They should not be strapless nor have shoulder straps less than a 3-finger width; 3) Rompers are not allowed to be worn; 4) No clothing that promotes activities/values contrary to school policies and Christian principles; 5) Undergarments should not be visible at any time; 6) Running/athletic short length must be within ½ inch of the tip of the forefinger when arms are at the front. Tightness of fit should allow at least ½ inch of fabric to be pinched at the side; 7) The administration may allow or require special clothing to be worn as may be needed or appropriate for a particular field trip or special event.

Male Students Co-curricular: Students attending school-sponsored functions, including home and away activities, are to use the following guidelines for non-uniform attire: 1) Unless a coach or faculty member gives permission for particular games or activity, boys are not permitted to wear sleeveless shirts, tank tops, or see-through/mesh clothing, and are expected to wear a shirt; 2) No clothing is allowed that promotes activities/things contrary to school policies and Christian values; and 3) The administration may allow or require special clothing to be worn as may be needed or appropriate for a particular field trip or special event.

Student Manager/Trainer Dress for Games

Student Managers/Trainers/Journalism students will wear a team T-shirt or polo representing that particular sport. The Head Coach will provide these. Students may wear school-approved jeans, slacks, or shorts. Please check with Head Coach and Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director for more direction on this apparel.

Responsibilities of the Team Mom

The Team Mom’s main responsibility is to assist the Coach with obtaining drivers for away games (if needed), picking up and distributing team food, and to secure gate and concessions workers for the home games. The CCS Athletics Administration will set the price and place orders for both MS and HS team meals. Team moms may request permission of the athletics
department to provide a meal cooked at home but reimbursement for expenses will not be provided unless approval is given in advance. Additionally, the purchasing of extra meals, snacks or drinks by team moms is discouraged and a school credit card or vendor account should be used. Parents of athletes will be billed by the CCS Business Office for the cost of team meals.

**Sportsmanship Standards**

The Apostle Paul stated in 1Corinthians 10:31, “whether therefore you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” Athletics can be used to develop many positive qualities in athletes, parents, and spectators. We must maintain a Christ-like testimony while in the midst of competition. The following guidelines have been developed to help us maintain a godly walk and testimony.

**For the Coach**

1. Exemplify godly character, behavior, and leadership at all times.
2. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athletes.
3. Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
4. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Respect the integrity, judgment, and authority of the officials. Show respect to the officials.

**For the Athlete**

1. Accept the responsibility of representing Cypress Christian School.
2. Treat opponents and teammates with self-control and respect.
3. Avoid actions and words that demean or taunt opponents.
4. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials.
6. Shake hands with opponents after the game. Treat the competition as a game, not a battle.

**For the Spectators**

1. Remember that you are at an athletic contest involving school students. They are not adults or professionals.
2. Show respect for opposing players, coaches, spectators, and cheerleaders.
3. Respect the integrity, judgment, and authority of the officials.
4. Avoid personal contact with the officials.
5. Avoid booing, taunting, and sarcastic and personal comments directed at opposing players and referees.
6. Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
7. Refrain from yelling or waving objects at inappropriate times during the contest.
8. Do not use noise makers during the contest.
Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are difficult tasks. Parents and coaches must have an understanding of the expectations and philosophies of one another. Clear communication is important.

Communication you will expect from the coach:

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for the team members
3. Locations and times of all games and practices
4. Approximate return times for all away games
5. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
6. Procedure to follow for injuries
7. Discipline that would affect playing time

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
2. Specific concern in regard to a coach’s philosophy and/or expectations

Appropriate issues to discuss with a coach:

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child’s behavior

Issues not appropriate to discuss with a coach:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

It is best to avoid speaking with a coach before or after a contest or practice with your concerns. Meetings of this nature rarely promote resolution. Parents are to refrain from contacting the coach within twenty-four hours after a competition regarding concerns. This standard simply allows for time of reflection, as well as emotionalism to ebb so rational, facts-oriented discussions can take place.

Athletic Awards

Athletic certificates are awarded by the school to deserving participants. The following criteria will be used to determine athletic award recipients.

Participation Certificates – All athletes who complete the season who have followed all the guidelines will be awarded a team participation certificate.
Varsity Letter Certificate – A varsity letter certificate will be awarded to varsity athletes upon successful completion of the season and upon criteria set by the varsity coach and Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director.

Letter Jackets - Jackets are available but the students must purchase them. These may be purchased after an athlete has earned a varsity letter. We ask that all patches, along with names and nicknames be approved by the Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director before the order is placed.

CCS Coaches will provide the wording for all team patches earned. Jackets will be ordered two times this year: November and May. Packets will be available before these dates. Please check with the Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director.

Team Awards – The coaching staff of each team will select award winners through a process determined by the head coach and Managing Athletic Director/Athletic Director. Each winner will receive a wall plaque.

High School will have one Athletic Awards Ceremony at the end of the school year. Each sport will give special awards at the program.

The dates will be posted on the website and reminders will be sent out by email. There are special awards given out at the Spring Awards program.
- The MS presents the “Sword and Shield” Award to two outstanding Eighth grade students for Excellence in Athletics, Leadership, Determination, Sportsmanship, Christian Character, Academic Achievement, and Integrity.
- The High School presents the “Valiant Warrior” award to up to two seniors for Excellence in Athletics, Leadership, Determination, Sportsmanship, Christian Character, Academic Achievement, and Integrity.

The High School also recognizes student-athletes for their work in the classroom.
- The “Academics Honors Award” is given to students who maintained an average of 80 or above for the first three quarters of the school year.
- The “Scholar Academic Award” is given to those students who maintained an average of 90 or above for the first three quarters of the school year.
- The “Scholar Athlete” award is given to the student-athlete who earned the highest GPA for the past four years.

**Sports Pictures**

Pictures will be taken on designated dates announced by the team’s coach. There is no extra fee for sports pictures.

Please be sure that athletes have all necessary items here on Picture Day including proper shoes.
**NCAA Clearinghouse**

If you are a prospective student-athlete at a Division I or II college or university, you have certain responsibilities to attend to before you may participate. Information concerning who needs to register with the Clearinghouse and what documents will be submitted can be found in *The Guide for College Bound Student Athletes* on the NCAA website, www.web1ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/.

**NAIA**

If you are looking at smaller colleges with scholarship opportunities, you will need to go to the NAIA Eligibility Center at NAIA.org. Information concerning student needs and registration forms can be found at this sight.
Athlete’s Code of Conduct

Speech:
Proverbs 16:23 “A wise man’s heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.”

1. **Choose your words and your timing wisely**, Questionable language or “slang” words will not be tolerated. The athlete will never engage in any language that can be termed “trash talking” or profanity.
   Example: In basketball, chanting “air-ball” or screaming while the opponent is on the free-throw line shows poor sportsmanship. In baseball, making noise while an opponent is at bat shows poor sportsmanship.

2. **The athlete will address the coaches and officials with respect**, The athlete will address the coach as “Coach” or “Mr., Miss or Mrs.” and will take concerns or complaints directly to him/her. Insubordination and divisive speech or behavior will not be tolerated. The athlete will address officials as “Sir” or “Ma’am.”

3. **Never criticize the officials or coaches**, Coaches and officials represent the authority figure. Obedience to authority is not optional and is not predicated on whether or not you agree with it. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God.

Relationships:
John 15:12 “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”

1. **Develop good relationships and a good rapport with teammates and coaches**, God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. You have an opportunity to develop lifelong friendships. If sports become all about you, you need not participate.

2. **Develop relationships and a good rapport with classmates**, Do not attempt to set yourself up on a pedestal.

3. **Develop relationships and a good rapport with students from other schools**, Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others.

Unity:
I Corinthians 12:12 “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.”

1. **Develop unity within your team**, “It is amazing what can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit.” John Wooden

2. **Develop unity with our school family**, God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us has different responsibilities, abilities and roles. Never be jealous or envious of someone else’s role. Be busy fulfilling your role.

3. **Develop unity within the Kingdom**, We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to further the Kingdom of God. It will take other Christian schools being successful. Pray for them as you pray for Cypress Christian.
Motives:

*I Corinthians 10:31 “…whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*

1. **Be motivated by the love of God.** Live for Him because He gave His life for us.
2. **Strive for victory in order to glorify God.** Athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself. “Perfection is what you are striving for, but perfection is an impossibility. However, striving for perfection is not an impossibility.” John Wooden
3. **Demonstrating Christ in our lives by abiding by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.** Tactics that promote unfair “gamesmanship” will not be tolerated.
4. **Committed to excellence.** Be committed to excellence in all areas: faith, practice, academics and game preparation. “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” Proverbs 16:3

Behavior:

*I John 2:6 “Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.”*

1. **The athlete will maintain a good reputation.** The athlete’s character will be in good standing with the administration, faculty and staff. The athlete will refrain from the use of profanity, suggestive or threatening language, or innuendos. The athlete will not be under the influence of, possess, or sell alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs. The athlete will not be involved in any immoral sexual activity or be in possession of any pornography or illicit pictures or literature.
2. **The athlete will know and understand all requirements.** The athlete will know all of the expectations of their team and will follow them both in action and in spirit.
3. **The athlete will show respect for all coaches, trainers, and all staff personnel.** This includes the game plans, methods, and philosophies.
4. **The athlete will show respect for their teammates.** The athlete will respect the seriousness of their commitment by attending all practices, meetings and games as prescribed at the beginning of the season and by working together to accomplish a common goal. Help to hold your teammates accountable for their actions.
5. **The athlete will maintain a high standard of appearance.** He/she will adhere to the strictest interpretations of the school dress code and the team dress and uniform code while at school and on any school trip.
6. **The athlete will demonstrate Christ-like character.** Both in and out of the arena showing respect in speech and in actions for game officials, opponents, and all those associated with our opponents.
7. **The athlete will never engage in fighting.** The athlete will maintain self-control at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct, penalties and technical fouls will not be tolerated and will be penalized. Penalties include, but are not limited to, suspension or dismissal from the team.
8. **The athlete will know and understand our philosophy.** The athlete will respect the eternal effects of their speech and actions as they represent themselves, their families, their school, their church and ultimately their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
Parent Code of Conduct

Speech:
*Proverbs 16:23 “A wise man’s heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.”*
1. **Choose your words and your timing wisely.** Questionable language or “slang” words will not be tolerated. Anything negative or insulting must be avoided.
2. **Be positive and encouraging.** Lift your student and others up. Let them know they are important. Let them know the importance of being a member of a team.
3. **Never criticize the officials or coaches.** They are representatives of authority. This is a great opportunity to teach your child how to respect a person in authority. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God. Insist that your child address the coaches and officials with respect.
4. **Never be involved in negative cheering.**
   *Example: In basketball, chanting “air-ball” or screaming while the opponent is on the free-throw line shows poor sportsmanship. In baseball, making noise while an opponent is at bat shows poor sportsmanship.*
5. **Never speak negatively around the students or other parents about:**
   a. **The School** – Negativity can be contagious. Instead, create an atmosphere of gratitude.
   b. **Other students or parents** – Speak to parents only about your students and their students. Speak to other students only in an encouraging manner. The only time another student or parent’s name will be mentioned is in a genuine complimentary fashion.
6. **Never criticize your child’s teammates.** Remember to teach your child team attitude.
7. **Always resolve differences with your coaches out of sight and earshot of students and other parents.** Call to set an appointment to speak with the coach privately. Pray about what you will say and what is motivating your discussion.

Relationships:
*John 15:12 “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”*
1. **Develop relationships and a good rapport with team and coaches.** God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. You have an opportunity to minister and be an encouragement to others. If sports becomes all about you and your student, you need not participate.
2. **Develop relationships and a good rapport with other parents.** You will need their prayers and support as much as they will need yours.
3. **Develop relationships and a good rapport with parents from other schools.** Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others. Promote your school and your students. The relationships you develop are a reflection on our entire ministry.
4. **Develop relationships with the coaches.** Get to know the coaches. Pray for them. Communicate with them with an open heart and mind. Be open, honest, and use gentle words.
Unity:
*I Corinthians 12:12 “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.”*

1. **Develop unity within our school family.** God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us has different roles and abilities. Never be jealous or envious of someone else’s role. Be busy fulfilling your role. Your example of being a unified school body is a valuable lesson for your students to learn.

2. **Develop unity within the Kingdom.** We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to further the Kingdom of God. It will take other Christian schools being successful. Pray for them as you pray for Cypress Christian.

Motives:
*I Corinthians 10:31 “…whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*

1. **Be motivated by the love of God.** Live for Him because He gave His life for us.
2. **Strive for victory as a tool to teach your students.** Teach them that athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself. “Perfection is what you are striving for, but perfection is an impossibility. However, striving for perfection is not an impossibility.” John Wooden
3. **Teach your students to abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.** Tactics that promote unfair “gamesmanship” will not be tolerated.
4. **Use your child's experience as a chance to be involved in his or her life.** Your relationship with your child as an adult will last longer than your relationship with them while they are in your home. If you want a relationship with them as adults you need to begin building that relationship now. Athletics affords you that opportunity.

Behavior:
*I John 2:6 “Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.”*

1. **Maintain class and character.** You are setting the example for your children. Realize that your every action reflects upon you, your family, CCS and, ultimately, you’re Lord.
2. **Always insist that your children follow instructions.** Coaches must depend on a player’s ability to follow orders immediately and without question. Questions will be raised at the appropriate time, such as at practice or after a game.
3. **Always dress appropriately.** Modest attire that does not attract attention to you and away from your child will be worn. Even in warm weather events, a Christ-like appearance must be maintained.
4. **Be an example and a guard.** Set the standard high for behavior and appearance and do not be afraid to speak to those who are indifferent to our ultimate purpose.
5. **Working with the officials…not working the officials.** Badgering an official to persuade a call our way comes with too high a price – a loss of our testimony and our ability to influence those others for Jesus Christ. There is never a time at any contest where a parent is afforded an opportunity to say anything to an official other than “Thank
You.” Without these men and women and their willingness to officiate, no one is playing ball.

6. **Remain in the stands.** Never attempt to approach the field, court, bench area, press box, score table, or the officials before, during or after a ballgame. Socially visiting with the coach briefly after a game is encouraged. Game officials are off-limits.

7. **Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.** Coaches, students, parents, and spectators will need to be strong in this area. Shake hands with our visitors before and after the game.

8. **Recognize the success of your opponent.** Compliment the good play of students from the other school. Congratulate their coaches on a well-coached game.

9. **Teach your children that they have a special purpose from God.** It is their responsibility to accept God’s purpose for them. Do not compare or contrast them to others. This limits their ability to fulfill their own unique potential and purpose.

10. **Have fun, touch lives, and be yourself.** You have the opportunity to be a positive influence, like no one else may be able to, in the lives of your children and their peers. Games, plays and officials will be forgotten, but your behavior and attitude will stay with your child forever.

The Code of Conduct Student and Parent Signature Form is located on RenWeb under the Optional Forms tab. This form must be signed by both the athlete and parent in order for the athlete to participate in any middle school/high school CCS sport.

*Note: Conduct detrimental to the testimony of the school will result in removal from the athletic arena.*