

## **SPORTS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

LCS is continually striving for excellence in the eyes of the Lord in all aspects from the staff to the students and the sports program is no exception. When we go to other schools for games, we are representing LCS and what it stands for. Therefore, when we are representing LCS, whether we are on the school grounds or other places, we expect to continue to strive for that same excellence. We must show control over our emotions, absolute respect for those in authority (coaches, officials, athletic directors), and be a Christ-like example to our fellow teammates, our opponents, and spectators. We cannot tolerate anything less.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

In order to participate in sports, an athlete must meet the following requirements: An athlete must maintain a "C" average (2.5) in all classes and not have below a 65% in any subject. Grades will be checked at the beginning of each week for sports eligibility. Failure to keep grades up will result in game suspension until the following week. The administrator has the right to make changes to this rule as he/she sees fit. Players will still be allowed to attend practice and the games (suited up) but will not be able to participate. This is encouraged unless it is deemed better for the player to work on homework. All homework is to be turned in to his/her teacher before student leaves for an athletic event or could result in a zero. All scheduled tests are to be taken before or the day following an athletic event and scheduled with the teacher prior to the event or could result in a zero. Students on Academic Probation will NOT be allowed to participate in school sports.

### **BEHAVIOR ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to maintaining passing grades, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for students and faculty members at all times. If these standards present a problem to the athlete that he/she is unable to correct, he/she will be suspended from the team

The way we act and look on the campus is of great importance. Athletes should be leaders and fellow students should respect and follow them. There are certain marks that pertain to an athlete. An LCS athlete is:

- Christian gentleman or lady who honors God in all that he or she does either by words or actions
- Student who puts school work/grades as a priority
- Competitive athlete who gives 100%
- Living example of the Christian life on and off campus
- Neat and well groomed at all times
- Plays by the rules and never seeks to gain unfair advantage by breaking the spirit of the rules
- Plays for God's glory and not for their own personal desire and glory
- Never boasts of his/her accomplishments but directs the attention towards others
- Is genuinely humble because of their recognition of who they are in the light of who God is
- Is never a showman or showoff
- Never blames others, teammates, or officials for their own failures
- Desires to see others succeed and never becomes jealous of their success
- Never uses profanity or illegal or unsportsmanlike tactics
- Enjoys competition, never quits, and plays the game for the game itself
- Practices diligently, working on their weaknesses, and improving skills
- Accepts unfair decisions graciously and handles adversity with self-control
- Learns that losing is part of the game and should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory

- Always courteous and congratulates the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory
- Is willing to sacrifice for the good of the team
- Becomes either a leader or one who supports the leadership of another
- Reacts positively to discipline, never with defiance toward authority
- Always wins, because winning is having played the game as well as possible. Therefore, one cannot tell by the actions or conversation of a Christian athlete whether in points scored they won or lost.

Real leaders will accept responsibility, realizing they influence many others on the campus. Athletic leaders work for the betterment of the school and what is good for their fellow students. Exhibitionisms (display of affection) with the opposite sex in public is in poor taste and places you below LCS standards. Hazing of new students, fighting, etc. are not an expression of the Christian life and will NOT be tolerated. Violations of these rules will result in suspension and/or expulsion from your team.

Students on Behavior Probation will NOT be allowed to participate in school sports.

### **ATTENDANCE AND ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

- Each student athlete must submit a Sports Participation Contract to the school prior to participation in any sport.
- No student may participate in scheduled games unless the participation fee has been paid.
- Each student athlete must have insurance prior to participation in any athletic program.
- In order to participate in athletics (practice or game) on a given day, a student must be in school for at least four (4) periods of the day of the game and must not be more than ten minutes late for any class.
- Missing a game or practice for a dentist or doctor appointment must be prearranged with coach by a note signed by the student's parents.

### **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

**Practices Policy:** Athletes are expected to be at every practice during the season. In the event of personal illness, death in the family, or a similar family emergency, they will be excused from practice by the coach. The coach, prior to practice time, must approve other reasons for absence. Athletes should have a note signed by their parent if they know they will be missing a practice. *Those who miss practice will not start a game and may not play as much as those who have consistently made every practice.*

**Traveling To and From Games:** On trips we directly represent our Lord, school and coaches; therefore, it is expected that all athletes and support staff (equipment managers and stat people) dress according to school dress code when traveling and conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with this code. Violations will result in suspension from the next game. Athletes will go to and return from a game in the same car unless arrangement through written consent is made and approved by the athletic director. Even with written permission, students may only ride with designated parents, not with other students. All team members, stat keepers, equipment managers, etc. must travel with parents or an adult in approved vehicles whose drivers have filled out the required transportation forms in the office. Parents are responsible to make sure players are at the practices and games. If parents cannot get their athlete to a practice or game, it is their responsibility to make arrangements – it is not the responsibility of the school. A team roster will be provided at the beginning of each season of each sport as a tool to help parents coordinate transportation.

**Uniforms and Equipment:** *Each athlete shall be responsible for the care and return of all uniforms and equipment issued. No athlete will be allowed to participate in any other sport or receive awards until all uniforms and equipment from a previous sport have been returned or paid for.*

All players are required to wear PE attire (which includes LCS t-shirt & LCS shorts) to each practice and/or tryouts with the exception of softball (baseball/softball pants can be worn in place of LCS shorts).

Game uniforms will consist of a sports jersey to be worn with LCS PE shorts unless matching shorts are provided. Appropriate shoes shall be worn for the sport being played – i.e. soccer cleats, baseball cleats, etc. Sports where no special shoes are required must be appropriate athletic shoes – no oversized, no slip-ons, etc. This is for the safety of the athletes – ***NO EXCEPTIONS***. Team jerseys are to be worn on game days to school with regular day school uniform bottoms (no PE shorts!) to show team spirit. Complete uniform for games is required. When the weather is cooler, **an LCS sweatshirt is REQUIRED to be worn with team uniform – NO EXCEPTIONS.** When the teams are attending their games it identifies them as team players, shows unity, and looks sharp.

**Sports Code:** Through sports we teach that hard work, teamwork, and Godly character are keys to true success. Athletes must think of themselves as leaders and examples; therefore, they have certain obligations and responsibilities. The following guidelines have been established to insure that Lodi Christian School athletes and their parents understand their responsibilities as representatives of Jesus Christ and Lodi Christian School.

We expect our coaches, players, students and spectators to represent the school in a manner that is respectful of others and God, on and off the field of play. We also encourage and endorse the enthusiastic support of constituents and friends. In the process, we expect all such constituents and friends to uphold the same high standards that we expect of our students. Opposing teams and their fans are to be treated as honored guests.

**Officials:** Officials in a game are there for the purpose of insuring that both teams will receive a fair deal and to control the intensity of the game. When there is a question about a particular call or incident during a game the only person who should speak to the official is the appointed team captain. When the captain speaks to the official it should only be with a tone of respect and for the purpose of clarifying a rule or the situation. If there is a significant problem with a particular official the team coach should bring it to the attention of Athletic Director for further action. **If an athlete is removed from a game, that athlete will automatically be suspended for the next game but will be required to sit on the bench with his/her team during the game for support.**

**Sports Fees/Costs:** In order to keep the sports program going, the player participation fees must help cover these costs. LCS understands that it may be hard for some families to participate because of cost and tries to keep the fees to the families down.

The sports fees will be assessed each year according to costs that may change. LCS will make every effort to keep the cost to the families as low as possible so that each and every student who would like to participate in the sports programs will be able to do so.

***Players cannot participate in practice until the contract is turned in and may not participate in any games until the appropriate fee is paid.***