

Lutheran Central School Athletic Guidelines

Revised and approved: September 2017

Mission Statement: to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, teach children, and assist parents in training children to be witnessing Christians and productive citizens.

Purpose: Interscholastic activities strive to address the same objectives as the curricular program, and supplement it by providing students the opportunity to further their skills and knowledge, and to develop a wholesome attitude toward competition through fellowship with other athletes.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. Scheduled practices and games will not interfere with the planned curricular activities of the regular school year.
2. All practices and games will be conducted consistent with the stated objectives and methods of the curricular program.
3. Practices may be conducted on Wednesdays as long as they are completed by 6:00pm. Practices may also be held on Sundays between 2:00 and 6:00pm.
4. There will be no more than five practices and/or games per calendar week (excluding tournaments.)
5. The Athletic Director and Principal must approve all fund raising activities.
6. Athletic practices are closed to the public, unless authorized by the coach.
7. Approval for out of state tourneys is required from the Athletic Director and the School Board.
8. The season schedule is developed and maintained by the Athletic Director. Any games beyond those on the schedule must be approved in advance by the Athletic Director and the Principal.
9. AAU teams must consist of at least 50% LCS students.
10. AAU practices may not be held at LCS facilities until the LCS basketball season is complete.
11. AAU teams must pay a \$50.00 stipend for seasonal gym use.
12. These guidelines will be reviewed by the school board on an annual basis.
Coaches, players, and parents will be asked to read and sign the guidelines prior to the beginning of the athletic season. Participation will not be permitted without a signature.

GUIDELINES FOR COACHES:

1. Coaches will at all times conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Christian principles of behavior.
2. Coaches will refrain from the use of verbal abuse or intimidation towards players and officials. This rule applies during games, in the locker room, and during practice.
3. Coaches will absolutely refrain from physical contact with players in a threatening or intimidating manner.
4. Coaches are directed to play each player at some point during each game or match.
5. The amount of time played by each player will be determined by coach(es) based upon practice / game attendance as well as effort shown during these times.
6. When a shortage of players for a particular class necessitates using players from a lower class, the following guidelines apply:
 - a. For 4th graders playing on the 5th grade team – If there are an inadequate number of 5th graders to make a team, all eligible 4th graders should be invited to play. If including all the 4th graders creates an unusually large roster, then it is permissible to divide the 4th graders into multiple groups, and use them in games on a rotating basis.
 - b. For 5th, 6th, or 7th graders playing on the next grade level team – If there are an inadequate number of players in any class such that underclass players are to be used, all eligible players from the lower age group are to be invited to participate. There is no guarantee of playing time for a player participating at a higher grade level.
7. If underclassmen are needed for tourney play, coaches will take all underclassmen of a grade unless there is a required roster with a limited number. In the event of a limited roster, the players to be taken to a tourney will be chosen at the discretion of the coach(es).
8. Coaches are to demonstrate the Christian concern for sportsmanship with other teams by not allowing a huge point spread during a game.
9. Coaches and/or players are responsible for sweeping the gym floor before each practice.
10. Coaches that violate these guidelines are subject to review and possible disciplinary action by the Athletic Director and School Board.

GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS:

1. Players will at all times conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Christian principles of behavior.
2. Players will treat their teammates, opponents, opposing coaches, fans, and game officials with respect at all times.
3. Players are expected to refrain from unchristian-like conduct that results in a technical foul. Conduct related technicals may result in the player being benched (at coaches' discretion.)
4. Players are expected to attend all scheduled practices, games, and tournaments unless they are excused from school due to illness or obtain an excuse from their coach

- prior to the scheduled event. A player with an un-excused absence prior to a game may lose starting and playing time privileges for that game.
5. Players that violate these guidelines are subject to review and possible disciplinary action, first by the coach, and second by the Athletic Director and the School Board.

GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

1. Lutheran Central School will be a gracious host to all visitors, demonstrating Christian love and concern for all participants.
2. Parents and other participants will at all times conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Christian principles of behavior.
3. Parents and other participants are encouraged to *positively* support their teams, and enthusiastic and wholesome cheering is encouraged.
4. Parents and other participants should respect officials, coaches, and players at all times. Verbal abuse, inappropriate gestures, taunting of players, coaches, or officials, and foul language will not be tolerated. This includes jeering free-throw shooters. Violations of this guideline may result in removal from the athletic contest.
5. Parents are responsible for providing transportation to and from all practices and games.
6. Parents are not to attend practice unless they receive prior approval from the coach.
7. Parents may not come to the team bench or approach players and coaches during a game unless an injury has occurred.
8. If parents have complaints they wish to express, they are to follow the example of Matthew 18 and Luther's explanation of the 8th Commandment. This means that parents will talk with the coach first, even before talking with anyone else, including other parents. If not completely satisfied, parents will request a conference with the Athletic Director. If still not satisfied, parents will ask the School Board to schedule a conference.
9. Parents are reminded that all coaches at Lutheran Central School are volunteers, and that they are committing personal time and energy to benefit the children. As such, parents are asked to appreciate and respect the efforts of all coaches in this task.
10. Parents and participants that violate these guidelines are subject to possible review by the Athletic Director and the School Board.

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SIGNATURE PAGE

I have read, understand, and agree to comply with all Lutheran Central School Athletic Guidelines.

Athlete's Signature

Date

Athlete's Signature

Date

Athlete's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Coach's Signature

Date