

# Middle School Athletics

2019/2020

"The Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools is dedicated to personal, athletic, and academic excellence and is committed to providing an accepting and nurturing Catholic Christian environment. BCACS fosters the development of faith by building a strong relationship with God through spiritual formation at all levels, and in every part of our schools."

## Academic Eligibility:

Saint Joseph Middle School has decided to initiate academic eligibility standards for athletics and extra-curricular activities. Student participation in athletics and extra-curricular activities is viewed as an integral component of the learning process, and for this reason our eligibility policy is intended to be motivational in design rather than disciplinary. Saint Joseph Middle School stresses that academic learning and achievement remain the top priority for every student.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Students must maintain a course average of 60% or better in their core classes (math, science, language arts, social studies and theology) in order to participate in extra-curricular activities and athletic events. This is determined on a weekly basis. Eligibility is checked every Tuesday morning at 8:00am by administration.
- Allowances may be made for students who have special needs or accommodations.

### Parameters of Ineligibility

- Students who are ineligible may not participate in games, practices, scrimmages or any other school extra-curricular activity.

### Length of Ineligibility

- Eligibility will run from Tuesday to Tuesday to determine if students are eligible to participate in athletic practices, scrimmages, games, practices and extra-curricular activities for that week. Students are expected to complete and hand in missing assignments, tests, retakes and late work by 3:00pm the Friday before the eligibility report is generated to allow teachers time for grading. Eligibility will start on the third Tuesday of each quarter.

### Communication

- Administration shall be responsible for ensuring that accurate, up-to-date information concerning the academic eligibility policy is communicated to coaches, activity advisors, teachers, students and parents.

## Attendance:

**School attendance:** In order to participate in games and practices a student must be in school all day. If a student arrives 10 minutes after the start of class (8:00am), he/she is considered to have an unexcused absence and will not be able to participate in practice/competition for that day. An excused absence would be considered for an appointment, funeral, etc. with appropriate documentation.

**After School Detention:** A student will not be eligible to participate in one game/competition within the week following the After School Detention.

**In-school suspension:** A student will not be eligible to practice or participate in games on suspension days. They are required to be at the game and sit with the team, but are not to dress for the sport. If there are no scheduled games during the suspension then the student will be required to sit out the next scheduled game.

**Out-of-school suspension:** A student serving an out-of-school suspension is not eligible to practice or play in any game on suspension days. If there are no scheduled games during the suspension then the student will be required to sit out the next scheduled game.

**Entrance Fee:**

Spectators, including parents and students (non-competing athletes), are to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 when attending a game. Children 5 and under are free as well as senior citizens (65+). Season passes are available for purchase at St. Philip Catholic Central High School.

**Game/Practice Pick-Up**

For practices and games, athletes are expected to be picked up **on time**. Failure to do so will result in a \$2.00/minute fee charged to the family.

**Participation Fee:**

Each year a participation fee must be paid. This fee covers the current school year. It is expected that the participation fee be paid before an athlete begins practicing.

**Physicals:**

Each student participating in athletics is required to have a MHSAA physical card with a doctor’s signature on file in the office. Only physicals given after April 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous school year will be accepted for the current school year. In addition, the St. Philip Athletic Department will provide physicals before practices officially begin for a nominal fee. No student can begin practices without a completed physical. Physical cards must be in the office and completely filled out in order for an athlete to participate. **Practicing without a physical will result in a loss of 20% of the season.**

**Recognition:**

Student athletes will be recognized at a school Mass. We do ask for a suggested \$5.00 donation to purchase a gift for each coach. This can be turned in any time throughout the season.

**Travel:**

Behavior on all away trips holds the same expectations as in the classroom as stated in the disciplinary handbook. Food and beverages on the bus are prohibited unless prior approval has been given. It is the responsibility of the students and the coaches that the bus is clean and that all trash is picked up and taken off the bus. The coach is required to ride the bus on all trips, unless he/she has permission from the Athletic Director.

If athletes choose to go home with their parents from an away competition, they must sign out with the coach. Not doing so could prevent the athlete from participating in future competition.

**Uniform/Inventory:**

All equipment and uniforms are the property of the Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools. Equipment and uniforms must be turned in at the end of the season. The athletic director will be informed of any missing equipment and/or uniforms. A replacement charge will be issued to any students that fail to turn in their uniform and/or equipment within five days of the last competition. Outstanding obligations must be taken care of before being allowed to participate in the next sport.

I acknowledge that I have received and read the guidelines and policies regarding the middle school athletic program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date