

# **Summit Christian Academy Athletics Philosophy**

## **Vision**

To continually strive for excellence in all aspects of athletics by committing to:

1. develop athletes to compete at a high competitive level
2. build eternal values by stressing attitude and team work
3. hire, train, and retain coaches that can minister to the spiritual needs as well as accelerate our SCA athletes
4. involve not only the participants, but also the student body, staff, faculty, school family, and the community in supporting the athletics programs
5. provide the best quality facilities, equipment, and uniforms possible

## **Purpose**

Athletics allow a student to be trained and excel in a certain area of his/her choosing. It is recognized that “our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor. 6:19, 20). As such, each body should be cared for and trained as God has proportioned to the athlete’s particular ability. The SCA athletic staff will help to develop these God given abilities and mold the athletes into becoming great people who have a godly influence on society. This is the purpose of the athletic program at SCA.

## **Objectives**

The objective of SCA Athletics is to “Build Great Athletes” where God is honored in all aspects of their lives allowing athletes to

1. serve others by helping their teammates and team succeed
2. be an effective witness in and out of the arena of competition
3. fully utilize their God-given abilities
4. realize the consequences of a work ethic
5. make sound decisions under pressure
6. handle conflicts, deal with success, and cope with disappointment

## **Athletic Standard of Conduct**

Athletes hold a unique place in the eyes and hearts of our younger students. Athletes, being role models for our elementary counterparts, must display a 24-hour-a-day testimony that honors the Lord Jesus Christ. Athletes are required to uphold SCA policies and standards while following the rules set forth in the SCA Handbook, and by the OSSAA (Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association).

## **Athletic Eligibility Policy**

We at SCA have high expectations and standards for our students and staff. Our students are being scrutinized from many angles. We know that a low minimum standard creates a low level of acceptance, and as Christians we should strive to set the highest standard as an example for others. With this in mind we are adopting the following academic eligibility guidelines for those participating in athletics.

Weekly eligibility for students will be checked after three weeks. The first check will be during the fourth week of the semester and each week thereafter. The period of probation and ineligibility will always begin the Monday following the day eligibility is checked.

If a student does not have a “D” or higher in all classes on the day of the grade check he/she will be placed on probation for the next one week period.

If a student is still below a “D” in one or more classes during the next week, on the grade check day, he/she will be ineligible to participate for the following week starting on Monday and ending on Sunday. If a student athlete is ineligible at the end of a semester, he/she is ineligible for the first six weeks of the next semester.

Incomplete grades will be considered to be the same as failing grades in determining scholastic eligibility. School administrators are authorized to make an exception to this proviso if the incomplete grade was caused by an unavoidable hardship. (Examples of such hardships would be illness, injury, death in family and natural disaster.) A maximum of two weeks is allowed for make-up work.

The student may regain his/her eligibility by receiving a “D” or better in all classes on the next grade check day.

## **Eligibility and Participation Requirements**

### **Athletes as Representatives**

Participation in athletics is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities. Since student-athletes are representatives of SCA on and off the field, we expect them to show proper sportsmanship and to abide by the Standards of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. When a student-athlete chooses to show improper sportsmanship or to violate the Standards of Conduct, consequences may include temporary or permanent suspension from the team. Serious violations may result in further disciplinary action to be determined by the administration.

## **OSSAA RULE 4 - CONDUCT OF STUDENTS**

### **Section 1.**

a. A student who is under discipline or who is suspended from school or an activity shall be ineligible until reinstated by the school principal. b. A student who is disqualified during a game or contest because of flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible until reinstated by the principal. It is recommended that a disqualified student(s) forfeit the right to participate in at least one contest before he/she is reinstated by the principal. A student whose flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct consists of fighting, cursing or using foul language toward a game official will be automatically suspended from participating in a minimum of the next two regularly scheduled games or contests on the same level of competition that his/her team plays.

### **OSSAA 17 Re-establishing or Maintaining Athletic Eligibility**

a. Eligibility after Transfer of Schools.

(1) A student who has established athletic eligibility at a school and then transfers to another school is not eligible for a period of one year from the date of first attendance at the new school, unless the student applies for and is granted an exception due to hardship or other qualifying circumstance. This requirement applies even when the student established eligibility at a school in a district or geographic area outside the district or geographic area in which the student's parents (or custodial parent or court-appointed guardian) were residing, and the student then transfers into a school in the district or geographic area in which the student's parents (or custodial parent or court-appointed guardian) reside.

(2) If the student transfers schools during the school year and regains eligibility during that same year, the student will not be permitted to participate in any regular season game or contest against the school previously attended.

## **RULE 9 - PROHIBITION ON RECRUITING OR INFLUENCING FOR ATHLETIC PURPOSES**

Section 1. Statement of purpose.

OSSAA recognizes that permitting member schools to recruit students as athletes would place undue emphasis on secondary school athletic activities, and might cause competitive imbalances among member schools, misdirection of scarce educational resources, and threats to the continued amateur standing of students. Accordingly, no member school is permitted to recruit a student to select or transfer to that school, or to encourage or allow others to do so on its behalf, based on that student's skill, reputation, or experience in athletics.

## **Rules: 20 OSSAA Sections 2. Recruiting defined.**

Recruiting includes initiating or maintaining contact with a student-athlete, or the student-athlete's family members, friends, or associates, in circumstances that could influence that student-athlete to select or transfer to a member school for the purpose of representing that member school in athletic competition. Offering economic incentives or rewards of any type to a student-athlete, which are not available to all prospective students on an equal basis, regardless of participation in athletics, or offering such economic incentives or rewards to the student-athlete's family members, friends, or associates, for the purpose of encouraging that student-athlete to select, transfer to, or remain at a member school, also constitutes recruiting in violation of this Rule.

Recruiting may also include offering or providing special or additional coaching or instruction that is not offered or made available to other student-athletes at the school on an equal basis, or providing special attention or consideration to a student-athlete who is considering transferring, for the purpose of influencing that student-athlete to remain at the school.

## **OSSAA RULES GOVERNING INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS RULE 1 - AGE, PHYSICIAN AND PARENTS' CERTIFICATE**

Section 1. Any student who reaches his/her nineteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for any athletic competition. Any student who reaches his/her sixteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible if enrolled in the ninth grade or below. Any student who reaches his/her fifteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for the eighth grade or below. Any student who reaches his/her fourteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for the seventh grade or below.

## **OSSAA ATTENDANCE POLICY**

A student who has not attended classes ninety percent of the time for the semester in a member school becomes ineligible. Exceptions may be made by the principal due to illness, injury, death in the immediate family, valid reasons for late enrollment, or late with the beginning of attendance.

## **CONDUCT POLICY**

The administration may, upon recommendation of a teacher, deem an athlete ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities due to unacceptable classroom conduct. The Conduct Ineligibility will be for a specified period of time or a specified number of events to be determined by the administration.

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY**

Substance abuse is a major violation of SCA policy. If an athlete or athletes have been determined to possess, use, or be under the influence of, tobacco, drugs and/or steroids they will be dealt with immediately. The school will take whatever action it deems necessary. At any time SCA can drug test an athlete whom it deems necessary to test.

## **OSSAA PHYSICAL EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

All physicals given for OSSAA participation must be given no earlier than May 1 of the preceding year in which the students are to participate and before the first day of practice in that student's particular sport. The physical will be valid from the date of the physical given until the next required physical. Parent(s) or guardian(s) must sign the parental consent form each year before the student participates in any organized athletic practice session including contest participation.

### **Insurance**

Providing adequate insurance in case of injury is the responsibility of the parents. Information concerning the policy must be provided on the physical form. In the case of football, the insurance coverage provided through the school must be selected if the student is not otherwise insured.

### **Athletic Fees**

An athletic fee is collected from all participants for each individual sport to help cover the costs of uniforms, equipment, and sport specific expenses. The fee for each sport will vary depending on operating expenses for each sport. The athletic fee for each sport will be announced prior to the beginning of said sport. Payment of the athletic fee will be required before a student is allowed to participate in any practice or games.

### **Eligibility for Participation**

A student must be completely enrolled in SCA in order to participate. Students may participate in one sport per season. A student must be in attendance half a school day in order to participate in games or practice. Exceptions may be made for a pre-arranged absence (dentist appointment, etc), these exceptions will be determined by the Athletic Director.

## **Additional Information**

### **Support of Parent and Athlete**

SCA expects parents and students to fully support the administration, staff, and programs in which the athlete participates. If at any time the school feels that the support or the cooperation from the parents and/or student is lacking, the student may be dismissed from the activity in which he/she participates.

### **Transportation**

All athletes involved with extracurricular activities must travel with the respective groups to and from events. Athletes are not allowed to ride with other students to practice or athletic events, unless it is a sibling. However, after the event they may be released to the custody of their parents or their designee.

**Equipment**

School owned equipment will be issued to each athlete. Each athlete will be financially responsible for loss or damage of the particular piece of equipment assigned to him or her. Gym lockers are available for the students' use. Uniforms and equipment must be returned within one week after the close of the particular sport. Athletes will not be allowed to practice or participate in other sports, until their uniforms are turned in from the previous sport.

**Tryouts**

Increased interest in a certain sport may require tryouts to reasonably limit team size. These tryouts will be monitored by each team's coaches.