

GCS SPORTS PROGRAM

Student Understanding and Commitment Form

The athletic program at Grace Christian School is an extension of the larger educational program of the school. While the classroom is so often limited to the theoretical, sports provides an experiential basis to help develop in our students godly qualities such as self-discipline, endurance, self-control, diligence, sportsmanship, submission to authority, teamwork, and numerous other qualities under the godly oversight of the coaches. Sports can provide our students with "real life" experiences; with God's help, our goal is to see godly character develop through this program.

Students athletes are expected to understand and be committed to supporting the following guidelines and policies in order to help ensure a positive sports experience for all involved and also to represent the school and themselves in a Christ-honoring manner.

1. I will be committed to the GCS Sportsmanship Creed, as follows:

*Let no unwholesome word proceed from your
mouth, but only such a word as is good for
edification according to the need of the
moment, that it may give grace to those who hear.*
Ephesians 4:29

While this is a high standard, it represents the distinctive that must characterize our sports program if it is to be distinctively Christian. This general principle should apply to all aspects of GCS athletics, including our attitude to fellow players, our coaches and other school officials, players, coaches and fans from other teams, and game officials.

2. I understand the coach is one who has committed to sacrificing large amounts of his personal time in order to work with us. I commit myself to supporting him in all ways possible. I specifically commit to refraining from criticizing him or her to others. If I have concerns, we will first commit them to Christ in prayer, and then speak directly with the coach in a private manner and/or with our parents if we still feel it necessary.
3. I will agree to attend and be on time for all practices, meetings, and games and will agree to accept the consequences when late. If it is necessary for me to miss a practice or game for reasons other than illness, I will notify the coach as far in advance as possible. If I am participating on another sports team at the same time as my participation on a GCS team, I will give priority to my GCS team commitment over my other team unless satisfactory arrangements have been made in advance with my coach.
4. I agree to inform my coach of an illness or injury that may affect my playing. I understand that lack of practice due to an injury may limit my playing time and that I am still responsible to attend practices and games when injured unless excused by my coach.
5. I understand that use of tobacco, alcohol, or drug products will result in automatic dismissal from any GCS sports team.

6. I understand that I am not to use iPods, radios or similar devices on away game trips unless the coach gives permission.
7. I understand that I will “dress up” on game days. Men will wear shirts, slacks and ties, and ladies will wear dresses or skirts and blouses. Team warm-ups can be worn to away games. Students will not be permitted to participate in games on days they are not in compliance with this dress guideline.
8. Student athletes are expected to maintain reasonable academic performance in order to maintain eligibility for sports participation. If the athletic director determines that a student is not maintaining reasonable grades, she may refer the matter to a committee consisting of the school principal and the teachers who have the authority to place the athlete on academic probation or suspend him or her from the team.
9. If a student athlete receives a school work detention, it will be the athlete’s responsibility to contact the coach in the event the detention interferes with a scheduled practice. Athletes may reschedule detentions directly with the athletic director if there is a conflict with a game. However, this must be done in advance of the game. Multiple detentions may result in suspension from a team.
10. I have read and agree to the guidelines set forth concerning uniforms.
11. As a part of the GCS sports creed, abusive or profane language is considered unacceptable and may result in suspension or dismissal from the team.
12. I agree to give a 100% effort during games and practices.

I have read the Parent/Student Handbook and the Student Commitment Form. I agree to these above guidelines for students and will support them to the best of my ability, and by the grace of God.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sports Team: _____