

Sport Information Sheet

Information

Athletic Department Philosophy

The athletic program of Mercy Academy exists as an extension of the educational program. As such, it is based on the following beliefs:

- The maximum growth of student-athletes occurs when the goal is to field the most competitive teams possible. To do any less diminishes the ability of competition to challenge and develop each student to her fullest potential.
- The educational value of competition includes: learning and practicing values and skills which include
 - teamwork
 - physical fitness
 - self-knowledge
 - self-control and self-discipline
 - accepting the strengths and limitations of self and others
 - mental toughness
 - poise under pressure
 - commitment
 - determination
 - preparation
 - sportsmanship/leadership
- As valuable as these qualities are in athletics, they are even more valuable in living our Christian ideals at school, work and in the community. The ultimate value of athletics is in how they prepare us to lead worthy lives.
- The essence of athletics is team. Individual development and achievement must occur within the context of and be complimentary to team effectiveness.
- Competition must occur within the bounds of fair play and respect for others. Success under any other circumstance is not worthy of a Mercy athlete.

Fundraising

A large portion of funding for athletic needs is funded by the school. Most fundraising is done through major events organized by the Advancement Office. The majority of our parent energies, resources and talents should go toward these endeavors. This allows our students to concentrate on athletics, and our coaches to coach with limited fundraising responsibilities. *ALL individual sports team fundraising ideas must be approved by the Athletic Director **BEFORE** any fundraising activity would occur. **ALL** fundraising request are submitted to Mark Evans at mevans@mercyjaguars.com.*

Concessions

The concession stand for all home games must be worked by the parents of that particular sport – this is extremely important for all of our programs. Each sport will have a parent point person who is responsible for scheduling workers. Please make sure you work when scheduled and work the number of shifts that we request your help with.

Purchasing

Budgeted items are ordered and paid for through the school. Advanced approval by the athletic director is required before making any purchases, including purchases paid for by athletes (warm-ups, sweatshirts, shoes, etc), special team banners, posters, pictures, etc.

Uniform Rotation

We have a uniform rotation second to none. Uniforms are not passed down. All orders must be pre-approved by the athletic director.

Communication

Conditional Absence Policy: In order for the absence to be considered for approval, it should be turned in to our AP one week prior to the requested day of absence. A Conditional Absence cannot fall before or after a school break or holiday. Please send the form electronically to kalpiger@mercyjaguars.com.

Many teams use individual apps for communication between coaches, athletes and parents/guardians. Please check in with your student-athlete's head coach to know which app you should download and check regularly.

Injuries

Your student-athlete should report her injury to her head coach. That head coach then should notify Stephanie Uhrich (Athletic Trainer).

Insurance

Mercy Academy has a supplemental athletic accident coverage plan. It is important to understand that the payment of all medical/dental expenses incurred from an athletic injury is made only in excess over any family or employer group coverage or plan that must contribute to its maximum before this coverage has any liability. Parents are advised to check with insurance companies regarding coverage, prior to treatment. Email Mark Evans at mevans@mercyjaguars.com to get your claim form.

Player Expectations

Participation in the athletic program is an excellent opportunity. The participation of an individual in an extracurricular activity is a credit to one's self, the family and the school. Mercy Academy sets high expectations for each and every student-athlete. Athletes are expected to:

- Demonstrate outstanding character on and off the field of play
- Show respect when communicating with coaches, teammates, opponents and officials
- Maintain the highest academic standard possible to continue her eligibility
- Be a positive leader in the classroom
- Consult with the coach concerning playing time and other issues
- Take responsibility for her actions
- Negative social media will NOT be tolerated

Parent Expectations

- Parents should be "official" friendly. Yelling at officials is unacceptable.
- Parents should treat coaches, administrators, other parents and students with respect at all times.
- Parents should only speak positively about others' children.
- Parents should allow their daughters to work with coaches on issues concerning playing time, their role, etc.
- Negative social media will NOT be tolerated.
- All sports (except dance and cheer that already have a fee structure in place) have a mandatory athletic player fee of \$100 that is due at tryouts with the physical form.
- Parents are responsible for providing transportation for their daughter when needed. Carpooling is allowed if arranged through parents. **NO RESTRICTED DRIVERS SHOULD BE PUT IN A POSITION TO DRIVE TEAMMATES.**
- Parents are responsible for additional costs based on the individual activity.
- **Parents are expected to work concessions and gates.**

Coach Expectations

- Coaches should provide practice and game schedules
- Coaches are expected to treat parents and athletes with respect
- Coaches should be open to conversation concerning a daughter's well-being.