



Outreach Christian Education



Home Of The Bulldogs

Parent and Student Athletic Handbook

(BASKETBALL EDITION)

Athletic Purpose and Philosophy

- Outreach Christian Education is committed to developing and sustaining an athletic program that is Christ-centered, comprehensive, competitive, and allows each athlete a unique venue to be a witness for Christ by using his or her God-given talent to move and play.
- Athletic experiences are an integral part of the educational program of OCE. The ultimate purpose of the sports program is to glorify God. It is expected that all participants maintain and uphold the Christian values of the school. Athletics are to contribute to the development of desirable sportsmanship, character, attitudes, and behaviors that reflect Biblical values. OCE believes that students should enjoy their involvement and competition while growing physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.
- Parents play a vital role in the success of a student athlete. It is our expectation that all parents be positive, supportive, and encouraging to all players, coaches, and opponents. Parent/coach conflicts should be handled gently, privately, and with a prayerful heart. Conversation with other parents about the faults of the coach and/or other players and students is beneficial to no one and will not be tolerated.

Playing Time Philosophy

The Bible teaches that we are to train as athletes do for the race and to run for the prize. OCE athletes should strive for excellence and play to win each and every game within the parameters of a Christ-like attitude. This means that in each game both the coaches and the players put forth their best effort. At the elementary and junior high levels, we understand that athletes have had less experience in the sport and will need both practice and game time to develop and refine their skills properly. There is no set formula that works for all sports when it comes to playing time, but consideration for both competitiveness and participation will be weighed by the head coach.

Athletic Courtesy

Athletics should foster sportsmanship at all times. It is the privilege of each student/athlete to manifest our principles through their actions. Failure to comply with the basics of sportsmanship will result in disciplinary action, which may include expulsion from the team. These guidelines are in effect at both home and away games. Our school is a testimony to God and our conduct should honor and glorify Him.

Basics of sportsmanship for players, spectators, coaches and parents include, but are not limited to:

- Treating visiting teams, players and coaches with courtesy and respect.
- Treating another school's property with respect.
- Obeying rules of the game and accepting the official's decisions with grace.
- Refraining from vulgar or offensive language.
- Using encouraging and edifying words towards competing athletes, teammates, coaches and officials.



Because of **Whom** we represent, more is expected of us. On the athletic field /court, in the stands, and on the bench, a difference must be seen in our behavior, decorum and sportsmanship. We believe that when the coaches, athletes, parents and spectators of OCE live in the Spirit and the basic guidelines of sportsmanship, then enjoyment, excellence, and success will surely follow.

Conference Affiliations

Outreach is currently a proud member of the MO-KAN conference for junior high and high school.

Practice

- Athletes are expected to attend all practices.
- Every effort should be made to schedule appointments during non-practice times. Players must inform the coach personally when they will miss a practice.
- Failure to comply with this rule may result in diminished playing time or suspension from future games.
- A practice schedule will be sent home detailing dates and times.

Games

- Athletes are expected to attend all games.
- Players must inform the coach personally when they must miss a game.

Uniforms

- Each player will be provided with a uniform and/or will be informed of appropriate attire. • Players must wear the complete assigned uniform for their sport. If he or she does not have his or her own uniform he/she will not be permitted to play in that game.
- Students are responsible for these uniforms, and it is expected that these uniforms will be cared for and returned (if applicable) in good condition. Uniforms are distributed prior to the first competition and are to be returned (if applicable) the week after the last game of the season.
- Uniforms must be returned in good condition. Failure to return a uniform will result in a \$40 charge for each piece (shooting shirt, jersey, shorts, etc.).

Athletic Ineligibility

Academics:

- No Pass, No Play—Student-athletes must be passing all of their classes in order to participate in OCE athletics. Coaches and teachers will be in constant contact and will be immediately notified of any failing grades. An appeal can be made should satisfactory improvement be shown and approved by the principal.

Attendance: A student is not allowed to compete if he/she:

- Is absent on the day of a competition. Approved appointments, college visits, and family



emergencies will not keep an athlete from competing. Illness is NOT an approved absence. • Misses 2 consecutive days of practice. The athlete is then required to practice 2 days before competing in a game.

Behavior

- A student may also become ineligible due to inappropriate behavior and disciplinary actions based on the discretion of the principal. The principal, athletic director, or parent may also limit a student's participation in sports for disciplinary action.
- Failure to adhere to the above-mentioned sportsmanship rules will result in a conference with the principal and/or athletic director.

Cell Phone Policy

Student athletes are prohibited from using cellular phones or other electronic devices during athletic events unless expressly granted permission from coaches or administration. Students should keep these items in their bags during all extra-curricular events. If a student is found to have a device in their immediate possession (not in their bag) and has not been granted permission to use it, the item will be confiscated and must be retrieved by a parent. This helps to protect our students against unwitting exploitation, inappropriate dialogue, and maintains focus on the tasks at hand. Athletes will be permitted to use their phones to call parents regarding pick-up times after games, etc.

Athletic Handbook Compliance Form

I have read and understand the rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth in this handbook. I agree to abide by these rules, regulations and guidelines and I will faithfully support the coaches, athletic director and administration of Outreach Christian Education.

Athlete's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

IMPORTANT: Please read, sign, and return this form to your coach or the athletic director. This, along with your liability release form and any fees due must be received by the athletic department prior to your first practice. Without these items, you will not be permitted to practice and your place on the team may be awarded to another student.