

# **St. Martin Lutheran School**



## **SPORTS PROGRAM**

## **POLICY**

# **ST. MARTIN LUTHERAN SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY**

We believe that Christian education is a lifelong process which is rooted in the true Word of God. We believe that we must teach about His love and His creation. We believe that the uniqueness of our Christian Education lies in our need to integrate our faith into all the fundamentals areas of learning.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT GOD** – We believe that God is the Triune God: the Father, who creates; the Son, who redeems; and the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies. We believe that God is love and that He shows this love by giving us faith through grace.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT MAN** – We believe that man is God's foremost creation but set apart from God by sin. Through Holy Baptism we become God's children so that man can live for God and have the assurance of eternal life.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT HOW WE TEACH** – We believe in fostering Christ-centered attitudes in the developmental learning process: mentally, socially, physically, emotionally and spiritually. We believe that the unique Child of God is nurtured by the Christian example of parents, teachers, and the church community. We believe that quality education is a dynamic process of growth and those methods of education and instruction should remain flexible to meet the demands of a changing society.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT WHAT WE TEACH** – We believe that what we teach should have a lifelong positive effect on our relationship with God and fellow man. This effect should motivate us to use our God-given talents to our fullest potential so that we can share the caring Christ.

## **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

Athletic activities are a valuable and enriching part of the St. Martin Lutheran School program. However, scholastic achievement retains priority over any athletic activity. Students participating in athletic activities before or after school must maintain minimum academic standards.

Eligibility for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders ~ the teachers of Grades 5-8, the Athletic Director, and Principal will meet to discuss academics, attitude and conduct. If a child is having poor to failing grades which are due to lack of effort, continuous late work or misconduct on or off the court, the Athletic Director or teacher will send a note to the parents on the action to be taken after having a meeting with the teachers from Grade 5-8 and Principal. If it warrants, a meeting will be called with all involved participants to discuss the athlete and the situation. Any exceptions to the eligibility standard due to a student's level of academic capability will be made only at the discretion of the teacher and the administration.

## **SCHOOLS IN CONFERENCE**

**PILGRIM, GREEN BAY** ~ 1731 St. Agnes Dr., Green Bay

**TRINITY, GREEN BAY** ~ 120 S. Henry Street, Green Bay

**N.E.W. HIGH SCHOOL, GREEN BAY** ~ 1311 S. Robinson Ave., Green Bay

**ST. JAMES, SHAWANO** ~ 324 S. Andrews, Shawano

**SACRED HEART, SHAWANO** ~ 124 E. Center Street, Shawano

**ST. PAUL, BONDUDEL** ~ 240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel

# RULES

The St. Martin Lutheran School athletic program is available to all 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. We are in the Big 6 League which consists of Sacred Heart ~ Shawano, St. James ~ Shawano, St. Paul ~ Bonduel, Trinity ~ Green Bay, Pilgrim ~ Green Bay, and St. Martin ~ Clintonville.

St. Martin Lutheran School abides by the rules set by the Athletic Directors of the Big 6 League. Our school policy has some stricter guidelines in the following areas:

- St. Martin Lutheran School has A, B, and C teams for Girls and Boys. Eighth graders may only be on the “A” team; “A” team consists of 8<sup>th</sup> graders or lower; “B” team consists of 7<sup>th</sup> graders and lower and “C” team consists of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Players will be determined by effort in the classroom and on the practice floor and will be rewarded by playing at the highest level of the player’s ability as determined by the coach. Placement of the players will be determined by the coaches.
- **SOFTBALL:** we have one Girls team and one Boys team.
- Some students may be asked to play on two teams for them to get more playing time. This will be at the discretion of the coaches and Athletic Director. Players who start on a higher team may not play down unless numbers are low and it is approved by the Athletic Director. (Revised May 2022)
- Parents and spectators must conduct good sportsmanship. This includes supporting the whole team and not just one player, using appropriate language, and supporting the coach. Any parent causing a disturbance will be asked to leave. The parent will be asked to write a written apology to the visiting team and to St. Martin Athletic Director before they will be allowed to attend any future sporting events.
- As cheerleading involves skills of coordination, personality, and leadership, the selection of both A-team and B-team squads will be arranged by an election process of adults knowledgeable in cheerleading skills.

## COACHES ELIGIBILITY

Qualified staff members will have the first chance at coaching any openings offered at St. Martin Lutheran School. If no staff member volunteers, then we will ask the congregation for volunteer names for the Athletic Director to contact. The Athletic Director has the responsibility to appoint the most qualified coach with the approval of the School Board.

## GRIEVANCES

Please reread the Ten Commandments for Parents with Children in Athletics. Parents must talk in specific terms of their son or daughter-not in generalizations i.e. team. When the parent has a concern or problem pertaining to their child, not team problems, do use the **CHAIN OF COMMAND:**

1. Talk to the player’s coach
2. Talk to the Athletic Director
3. Talk to the Principal

If after talking to the Chain of Command you are not satisfied, file a signed written statement of your concern to the School Board.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

On game day or for practices, the player should be in school for ½ a day. For St. Martin Lutheran School, this means the player should be here at the beginning of lunch hour. If this rule is broken, players will be penalized and need to sit half of the next game. Other situations, such as funerals, need prior approval from the Athletic Director. (Revised May 2022)

# UNIFORMS

The home team should wear light-colored uniforms and the visiting team dark.

The torso of the team jersey shall be the same single solid color from the base of the neck to the bottom of the team jersey. Undershirts shall be similar in color to the torso of the shirt (which means the main color of the jersey~ example: white jersey with white undershirt; blue jersey with blue undershirt) and shall not have frayed or ragged edges. If the undershirt has sleeves, both shall be the same length. A visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference is not permitted on the team jersey or undershirt.

A team jersey designed to be worn inside the pants/skirt shall be tucked inside the pants/skirt and the pants/skirt shall be above the hips and worn properly. A player not conforming to this uniform policy shall be directed to leave the game. **A team member shall not remove the jersey and/or pants/skirt in the visual confines of the playing area. (See Rule 3-4-15 in the WIAA Basketball Rule Book).**

## LAUNDERING

1. It is the policy of St. Martin Lutheran School that each parent will be in charge of washing their athlete's uniform.
2. Uniforms should be hand or machine washed in **COLD WATER**. Keep the tops inside out during washing. **DO NOT USE FABRIC SOFTENER.**
3. Uniforms should be hung to dry on plastic hangers. Hang them to dry right side out. **IMPORTANT – DO NOT PUT UNIFORMS IN THE DRYER.**

## RETURNING UNIFORMS

It is the policy of the school that if a uniform is lost or returned in an unsatisfactory condition, the athlete/parent will be responsible for the replacement cost of the uniform. Currently the replacement cost is \$145.00 for a uniform.

# ATHLETIC CARDS

A physical examination by a physician is required before a student may participate in a practice or game. A physical card is usually good for two years. The second year a parent must sign an alternate year card that simply gives permission for the student to participate.

Signing the athletic book card means that you as a parent and athlete have read and agreed to the items in this athletic booklet. Important items include:

- Laundering uniforms
- Giving permission to ride bus to away games
- Getting your son/daughter to tournament games
- Agreeing to the athletic code and athletic policy
- Helping in concession/hallways/gym the required amount of times as stated that season from the Athletic Director. Numbers may vary depending on available spots. When multiple children are in the same sport, we ask that you volunteer the required number of times plus 1 additional game per child in the family during the shared season.
- Helping at our Parent/Taco Night (major fundraiser for the sports program)

## FEES

They are determined each year by reviewing our expenses for the Rocket Booster Club for referees, game balls, buses, uniforms, equipment, etc.

Volunteer fee of \$50 is required to participate. After serving your required number of volunteer spots, your \$50 will be refunded to you when the uniform has been returned. (Revised May 2022)

We will not take a bus for tournaments or C-Team basketball games, so parents will be responsible for transportation. Please make your arrangements early. Buses are provided when the bus garage can accommodate us.

## CHECKLIST TO HAVE BY FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE

- \* Physical or alternate card
- \* Signed Medical Form

- \* Payment of Athletic Fees
- \* Signed athletic book card

# ATHLETIC CODE

ST. MARTIN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Clintonville, Wisconsin

Your child has expressed an interest in participating in the athletic program on the interscholastic level. This letter is intended to outline the philosophy of participation at St. Martin. The card from this booklet must be signed by you and your child and returned with a physical card and fees before your child will be able to participate in practices or games.

We will make every effort to encourage as many students as possible to participate. We will keep all students who honestly want to be members of a St. Martin team. Demonstration of serious effort must be seen in certain areas to show that "want" or "desire". These areas are physical fitness, classroom requirements, emotional control, sportsmanship, teamwork, team spirit and practice attendance. Attendance at practice is especially important. If practice must be missed, a parental excuse should be given to the coach as early as possible. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated and will result in suspension from the team.

Coaches will distribute their practice procedures and policies at the respective sports organizational meeting with prior approval from the Athletic Director.

The teachers of Grades 5-8, the Athletic Director, and Principal will meet after each midterm and quarter to discuss academics, attitude and conduct. (We will meet more often if academics, attitude or conduct warrants it.) If a child is having poor to failing grades which are due to lack of effort, continuous late work or misconduct on or off the court, the Athletic Director or teacher will be sending a note to the parents on the action to be taken after having a meeting with the teachers from Grade 5-8 and Principal. If it warrants, a meeting will be called with all involved participants to discuss the athlete and the situation.

Upon agreement that the above mentioned items are warranted concerns, the following action will be taken:

1<sup>st</sup> violation- The student will lose one game/match and improvement must be noted in one week. The student will be expected to complete all assignments on time with positive effort and attitude.

2<sup>nd</sup> violation- The student will lose one game/match and will be placed on probation. The student will **not** be allowed to participate until satisfactory improvement is made in all areas (academics, attitude, and conduct).

3<sup>rd</sup> violation- The student will not be allowed to participate in sports for the remainder of the school year.

EXCEPTION – USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL OR DRUGS ~

1<sup>st</sup> violation- **games equivalent to ½ of the season**

2<sup>nd</sup> violation- **dismissal**

The teacher, athletic director, coach, and principal will consult before the penalty is applied. The parents will then be notified in writing. The penalty will be applied to the game/match so as not to interrupt the most current game or participation plan. The penalty may be appealed to the Chairman of the School Board, who will select a committee of three members to hear the appeal.

All players and managers are encouraged to travel to out-of-town games with the squad on the bus when provided. If you wish your child to travel home with you, your child must present the Athletic Director/Coach with a written note from **the parent**.

May God bless the desire, dedication and determination of your child.

# MEDICAL TREATMENT CONSENT FORM ~ Gr. 5-8

I hereby give permission of any and all medical attention necessary to be administered to my child, \_\_\_\_\_, in the event of an accident, injury, sickness, etc., under the direction of the teacher or chaperone parent until such time as I may be contacted. This release is effective for the time during which my child is participating in any sport program at St. Martin Lutheran School and Track & Field Day at Bonduel during \_\_\_\_\_ school year.

In the event that my child is injured while traveling in a carpool to or from an away contest, I hereby give permission for the driver or another adult in the vehicle to administer any and all medical attention necessary for my child until I may be contacted. I hereby assume the responsibility for payment and any such treatment.

Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_

ID/Group/Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

Family Physician \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Address \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dentist Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dentist Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My child's known allergies and reactions:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Medication: \_\_\_\_\_

In case I cannot be reached, either of the following people is designated:

Name & Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Parent or Guardian** **Date**

*This form will accompany your child to all St. Martin athletic events, both home and away.*

# THE PARENTAL ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE

The parents of a student are usually the determining factor in their child becoming interested in athletics. Because we encourage all athletes to be Christ-like, the responsibilities of the parents are vital to help the student become a total athlete at St. Martin. We see the following as being necessary in the parenting of your athlete:

1. Teach by example a Christ-centered attitude towards all.
  - a. Set priorities for church and Sunday School attendance; homework; peer relationships; family time; and appreciating each person as a creation of God.
  - b. Don't be critical of other coaches or participants.
  - c. Support the whole team verbally and physically.
  - d. Encourage and participate in the development of the student athlete's physical skills as God-given.
  - e. Encourage self-accountability and delayed gratification traits in your athlete.
  - f. Instill in the athlete good health habits towards food, sleep, and exercise, by your example. Demonstrate prudence in the use of all drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.
  
2. Practical items of support
  - a. Help your child maintain his/her commitment to the team. This means that your child needs to be at all practices. Individual coaches will let the team members know of their expectations in practices and at games.
  - b. Help your child develop good time-management skills by picking him or her up within 15 minutes after a practice and promptly after a game. Bus pick up times are posted in the Happenings (school's weekly newsletter). Athletes not picked up by 15 minutes after an away game will be dropped off at the police station. You can pick them up from there. No phone calling for transportation needs is allowed after a practice.
  - c. Attend some athletic contests.
  - d. Drive to some away games.
  - e. Help at the concession stand at least 2 home games.
  - f. Serve as a driving coordinator for a sport season.
  - g. Be aware of being over-zealous in your support.
  - h. Be sure your child has a current (within the past year) physical card on file at the school office. These cards are to be turned in to the Athletic Director prior to the first practice. A student cannot practice without a current physical card or alternate card, athletic book card, and paid fees.
  - i. Practice and Game schedules ~ practice schedules will be handed out monthly. Game schedules will be handed out at the mandatory meeting held before each sport season.
  - j. An athlete may play on an outside team; however St. Martin must take priority.

k. Any athlete who does not participate in physical education due to sickness, injury, or no uniform may not participate in practices or games which occur on that day.

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR PARENTS WITH CHILDREN IN ATHLETICS

1. Make sure your children know that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love them, appreciate their efforts, and are not disappointed in them. This will allow them to do their best without a fear of failure. Be the person in their life they can look to for constant positive reinforcement.
2. Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic capability, their competitive attitude, sportsmanship, and actual skill level.
3. Be helpful but don't coach them on the way to practice, games, or on the way back, and so on. It is tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for the child to be inundated with advice, pep talks, and often critical instruction.
4. Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying", to be working to improve their skills and attitudes. Help them to develop the feel for competing, for trying hard, and for having fun.
5. Try not to relive your athletic life through your children in a way that creates pressure; you fumbled, too; you lost as well as won. You were frightened, you backed off at times, and you were not always heroic. Don't pressure them because of your lost pride.
6. Don't compete with the coach.
7. Don't compare the skill, courage, or attitudes of your children with other members of the team, at least within his/her hearing.
8. Get to know the coach so that you can be assured that the philosophy, attitudes, ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your child under his/her leadership.
9. Always remember that children tend to exaggerate both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.
10. Make a point of understanding courage, and the fact that it is relative. Some of us can climb mountains and are afraid to fight. Some of us will fight but turn to jelly if a bee approaches. Everyone is frightened in certain areas. Explain that courage is not the absence of fear, but a means of doing something in spite of fear or discomfort. The job of the parent of an athletic child is a tough one, and it takes a lot of effort to do it well. It is worth all the effort when you hear your youngster say, "My parents really helped. What a blessing that was!"