

ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Athletic Handbook



2023-2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Mission Statement	3
GHCAA	3
Eligibility of Students	3
Enrollment	3
Physical Evaluation Form	3
Financial Obligations	3
School Attendance	4
Attendance for Practices and Games	4
Academics / Citizenship	4
Uniforms and Equipment	4
Transportation	5
Competition Level / Playing Time	5
Volunteers	5



INTRODUCTION

St. Edward Catholic School offers interscholastic athletics for all students. The athletic program is under the jurisdiction of the school and administered by the school administration and coaches employed by the school.

MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Edward Catholic School athletic program supports the mission and vision of the school. The athletic program also supports the responsibility that is shared by the school and the parents to encourage the spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical development of our students.

St. Edward Catholic School believes that athletics provide a unique opportunity in which the student can learn important values such as teamwork, good sportsmanship, hard work, leadership skills, commitment, healthy competition, and fair play.

GHCAA

St. Edward Catholic School is a member of the Greater Houston Catholic Athletic Association (GHCAA) and is currently classified as a small D1 school. The GHCAA is dedicated to fostering human development, within the framework of a Christian environment, encouraging a positive vision in our young men and women through exercise, positive athletic competition, and fully recognizing the dignity of each student in Christ's image.

ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS

Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. Students must earn the privilege of participating through hard work, dedication, and self-discipline.

Enrollment

Students must be enrolled at St. Edward Catholic School to participate in any athletic program offered at the school.

Physical Evaluation Form

Students must submit the Houston-Galveston Archdiocese Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form to the school to participate in athletics.

Financial Obligations

Students must be in good standing on all financial obligations to the school, e.g., tuition and fees. Students are required to pay an athletic fee for each sport in which they participate. Athletic fees are due once official rosters have been turned into the GHCAA. The athletic fees are non-refundable. The fee will consist of \$125 per child, per sport. The athletic fees will be charged to the parent/guardian FACTS account.



School Attendance

A student must be in attendance on a day that a school is in session to participate in any games or practices on that day. A student that leaves school early due to illness may not participate in practices or games on the same day.

Attendance for Practices and Games

Consistent and productive practice is essential for any athletic team to be successful. All team members are expected to attend all practices, meetings, and games. If a student cannot attend an athletic contest, meeting, or practice for any reason the coach of that sport must be notified prior to the event. Acceptable reasons to miss practice may include church functions, doctor appointments, family obligations, emergencies, and academic-related school functions. It is highly encouraged that appointments are not scheduled on the day of a game or contest.

If an athlete feels the need to quit a team for any reason, he or she is highly encouraged to talk to the head coach before doing so. If, after such a conversation occurs, the student still feels that quitting is necessary, he or she should turn in all issued equipment immediately. If an athlete decides to quit a team the athletic fees will not be refunded.

Academics / Conduct

Athletes must be passing all subjects in order to be eligible to participate or to try-out for the programs. Team members who are not passing after Progress and Report Cards are issued, will not be allowed to participate in games for a two-week time-period, starting on the day following the report. Athletes will continue to attend and participate in all practices with the team. After two weeks, if the failing grades are passing, the student will be allowed to play in the games. If the grades are still failing, one more week of not playing will be imposed. Failure to attain a passing grade after this last period will result in the dismissal from the team.

To participate in athletics, a student must have a grade of E or S in Conduct. A student who serves a detention will not be available for practices or games on any days that the detention is served. If the student receives more than two detentions in a season, the athlete is immediately ineligible for athletics. Any student that is expelled or withdraws from school will immediately become ineligible to participate in St. Edward Catholic School athletics.

Uniforms and Equipment

School-issued uniforms and equipment are to be used exclusively for St. Edward Catholic School games, competitions, practices, and special activities. These uniforms are not to be used for any non-school related function. Care must be taken to keep uniforms and equipment in good condition. At the end of each sports season, all issued uniforms and equipment, in clean and good condition, must be returned to the school. Failure to do so may result in an assessment of a fee equal to the cost of the uniform. Students may not compete in another sport or activity until uniform matters are resolved.



Transportation

St. Edward Catholic School is not responsible for getting students to away competitions. There is no transportation bus for athletics and the school cannot provide transportation to the athletic event. It is the parent/guardian responsibility to get athletes to their perspective away competitions.

Competition Level / Playing Time

St. Edward Catholic School will compete at the varsity (8th grade A-team) level for all offered sports. Depending on the number of participants, some sports may also have junior varsity (B-Team) and C-team. For the younger level teams, every participant in a sport will receive some playing time in games and contests throughout the season. Coaches will strive to put players in a position to have a positive and successful experience in games and contests. The development of the team and the individual will be considered when making these decisions.

Varsity level competition lends itself to an emphasis on competitive success. Athletes will receive playing time at the discretion of the coaching staff with the intent of giving the team the best chance for overall success. Although winning is a point of emphasis, the rules of play, good sportsmanship, the welfare of team members, or the mission of the school will not be sacrificed.

Decisions regarding playing time are the sole responsibility of the head coach and his or her staff for that sport. Playing time will be determined by a variety of factors including, but not limited to; skill, athletic ability, following directions, attendance, and dedication, accepting constructive criticism, attitude, work ethic, respect, willingness to be coached, potential for improvement, and performance in practice and games.

Volunteers

As with most Catholic schools, we depend heavily on the generosity of the parents. Without the donation of time and resources from the parent community, our school mission would not be achieved. Each season volunteer support is necessary to ensure that everything runs smoothly. There are many opportunities to help support the team, for example, scoreboard operator or bookkeeper for games. The St. Edward Booster Club may help in facilitating volunteer needs or opportunities.



Athletic Program Parent Consent Form

Student Name/Grade: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian

(Print name and relationship: _____)

Athletic Sports Programs 2022-2023 School Year- Sport FEE \$125.00

- Cross Country 5th-8th Grade
- Volleyball 6th-8th Grade
- Soccer 5th-8th Grade
- Basketball 6th-8th Grade
- Track 1st- 8th Grade
- Baseball 6th-8th Grade
- Cheerleading 6th-8th Grade

Athletic Fees for each sport the student is participating in is \$ _____. You will not be charged on FACTS until the Official Roster has been turned into the front office.

Please place your INITIALS below and on the following page (each blank provided) for parental consent and acknowledgements: (Parent/Legal Guardian Initials only)

_____ By signing this form, I/we acknowledge that my/our school ***FACTS account will be billed for the above Athletic fees.***

_____ I give consent for my child to participate in the St. Edward Catholic School Athletic Program and associated sports practice and games.

_____ I acknowledge that my child will not be able to participate in athletics until I submit the Houston-Galveston Archdiocese Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation 2023-2024 School Year Form (Form 119a – 3 pages).

_____ I have discussed the athletic handbook with my child, and they have given me verbal consent to participate in the athletic program.

_____ I acknowledge that there is no transportation bus this year for athletics and if I cannot provide transportation to the athletic event, I will need to provide alternative transportation for my child.

_____ I grant permission for my child to participate in extracurricular athletic activities at St. Edward Catholic School. These activities will take place under the guidance and direction of school employees and/or volunteers. As a parent and/or legal guardian, I remain legally responsible for personal actions taken by my participating child I agree on behalf of myself, my participating child, our heirs, successors and assigns, to hold harmless and defend the school, its employees, officers, directors and agents, and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, or representatives associated with these activities, arising from our in connection with my child participating in these activities, or in connection with any illness, injury or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the school, its officers, directors and agents, and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, or representatives associated with the activity for reasonable attorney’s fees or expenses arising in connection therewith. I hereby warrant to the best of my knowledge, that my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health and medical care of my child. In the event of a medical emergency, I hereby give permission to school employees and/or volunteers supervising the athletic event to obtain medical services and to transport



St. Edward Catholic School Athletics 2023-2024

my child to the nearest hospital/emergency care center for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I will not hold St. Edward Catholic School, its volunteers, coaches, or staff liable or responsible for any injuries, damages, or death. I will not hold St. Edward Catholic school, its volunteers, coaches, or staff liable or responsible for damages to personal property or theft.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date