



ST. JOHN VIANNEY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Parent and Student
Athletic Handbook
2019-2020**

Guidelines and Expectations

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St. John Vianney Athletic Program Philosophy & Policies

Philosophy

The St. John Vianney Athletic Department strives to furnish a sports program that will foster and nurture, in all participants and spectators, a set of Catholic values that emphasize respect of all individuals, building self-esteem, developing individual student skills and knowledge of the sport while always encouraging a sense of fair play and sportsmanship.

Any child in 5th – 8th grade, attending St. John Vianney Catholic School, is eligible to participate in our Athletic Program. Children, coaches and parents/guests are expected to follow the rules and regulations in order to continue to participate in our Program.

Fees

There is a \$100.00 registration fee for each sport. Track and Field (spring) there is a fee of ~\$50 per student athlete.

There is a one-time Booster Club fee of \$25 per family per year.

Athletic Uniforms

The school provides athletic uniforms tops for each student athlete. Bottoms are to be provided by the student – parameters will be given for each sport. We expect that the uniforms be handled with the utmost care. Any damage to an assigned uniform will require the replacement to be purchased by the student. Uniforms will be distributed by the Athletic Director at their discretion and will be turned in at the end of each season. Student athlete's failure to return their uniform at the requested time will result in payment for a replacement.

Teams

Single Grade Teams (Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Basketball)

A Division - 8th grade boys and girls

B Division - 7th grade boys and girls

C Division - 6th grade boys and girls

D Division - 5th grade boys and girls

Multiple Grade Teams (Boys Flag Football, Boys Volleyball and Girls Flag Football)

A Division - 8th and 7th grade boys/girls

C Division - 6th and 5th grade boys/girls

Coach Expectations

- A. The Athletic Director selects coaches.
- B. All coaches must be finger printed, complete the safe environment online course “Protecting God’s Children”, at <http://www.virtusonline.org> and submit a copy of the completion document to the school office, and have filled out waiver form in the school office prior to any interaction with the team.
- C. Coaches will stress positive reinforcement and proper discipline of all players.
- D. Coaches are empowered to provide basic skills technique in their respective sport.
- E. Coaches will not be responsible for carpooling students to and from games.
- F. Coaches may have Assistant Coaches on approval of the Athletic Director.
- G. Coaches have the authority to reduce a player’s participation time due to that player’s unexcused absences, excessive excused absences, and/or improper conduct during practices/games.
- H. Coaches will ensure that no physical or verbal abuse occurs.

Players Expectations and Conduct:

- A. Once a player has agreed to participate in an after-school sport, the child is expected to complete the sport season, unless eligibility concerns become apparent, the student becomes ill or there is consultation with the Athletic Director and the administration to remove the student from the sport.
- B. Players will always show respect for themselves and for others.
- C. Players will make responsible choices and decisions.
- D. Players will show proper sportsmanship.
- E. Players’ academics and classroom behavior must show consistent effort and satisfactory progress.
- F. Students must be committed to be present at games, practices, meeting, etc. appropriate for the sport activity. Absences must be excused with a written note upon returning for the next function. It is expected that the player will contact the coach/athletic director if s/he knows beforehand that s/he is unable to make a practice or a game.

The following types of behavior will result in an ejection from an athletic contest: fighting, taunting or baiting, profanity, obscene gestures, disrespectfully addressing an official or an opponent.

First ejection: Three (3) game suspension in all sports and a formal sit down with Athletic Director and St. John Vianney Principal. If deemed severe, the maximum punishment below will be enforced without a second offense.

Second ejection: Suspended for the remainder of the sport season and possible suspension from St. John Vianney Athletics for 365 days from ejection.

Eligibility of Students

Academic

All students begin the school year eligible for athletics, unless they were placed on Academic Probation at the end of the previous school year. Upon the Progress Report, parents will be notified if a child's progress is not satisfactory in any area of the established guidelines. Students in 5th grade need the approval of the teacher and administration to participate in extracurricular activities, assuring the student's academic progress is sufficient. Grades 6 – 8 academic eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities by maintaining a 2.0 grade point average (GPA), with no failing grade for the marking period, which governs eligibility for that activity. Students below the 2.0 GPA, will be placed on a 3-week probation period where the student will not be able to participate in games or practice with the team. During this time all missing work, make up assignments or test must be completely prior to the end of the 3-week probation. After the 3-week probation period, the school administration, athletic director and student's teachers will assess the student's progress. After that assessment, the student will either be deemed to resume extracurricular activities or the continuation of probation until the next marking period.

If a student's overall behavior is in question, a student/parent(s)/teacher(s)/administration conference will be set-up to determine continued participation.

Attendance

Students must be present in class for sixty (60) percent of the school day in order to be considered eligible to play/participate in a school sanctioned event (clubs, sports, and extra-curricular). The 60% attendance is still in effect regardless if the absences are excused or unexcused.

Playing Time

In sports determined by a set time, or periods/quarters, this should be fairly easy to determine. In games where points determine the outcome, then, points played and not game time should be used for the determination. Overtime and tiebreaker games should not count in the calculations.

Uniforms

Team clothes are not to be worn at school, only for league or tournament athletic competitions.

Our goal and philosophy at St. John Vianney Catholic School for athletics is that winning is a natural goal in the pursuit of excellence, but the principles of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP and the ENJOYMENT of PARTICIPATION in competition must take PRECEDENCE AT ALL TIMES to enhance the educational values of all contest.

Parents/guardians and students need to understand that missing practice could affect the amount of playing time s/he receives in the games. School SANCTIONED events and family emergencies will not be held against the student for playing time. Club, AAU and Travel team practices or outside activities/events will not be an excusable justification.

Allotments per grade level:

- In the 5th grade, the emphasis will be on fundamentals, sportsmanship and the team concept. There will be a minimum amount of playing time for each participant (50% of the game).
- In the 6th grade, there will be an increased emphasis on fundamentals, sportsmanship, basic play calling and further appreciation of the sport. There will be a minimum amount of playing time for each participant (50% of the game).
- In the 7th grade, there will be continued emphasis on improving fundamentals, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit. There will be a minimum amount of playing time for each participant (25% of the game).
- In the 8th grade, there will be continued emphasis on refining fundamentals, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit. There will be a minimum amount of playing time for each participant (25% of the game).
- **Though these are the minimum required minutes per player, our coaches will make conscious efforts to exceed the allotments as often as we can.**
- **Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both parents and coaches. Meetings of this nature rarely promote resolution.**

“The 24-Hour Rule”

The “24-Hour Rule” is a very important practice for both parents and coaches. The “24-Hour Rule” asks parents to refrain from discussing a game, a play or a strategy with a coach for at least 24 hours after the contest. This rule is a great way for parents to gather thoughts and present concerns in a civil and rational way with the coach without the emotions, intensity and sometimes anger *that can ensue* after the heat of competition. There can be exceptions to the “24-Hour Rule” including conversations about player safety and well-being can and will be brought to the coach’s attention without delay. St. John Vianney will adhere to this practice and will be the expectation for all St. John Vianney volunteer coaches and parents.

Grievance Policy

When issues arise, the following procedures should be adhered to and all individuals should be approached with the utmost respect.

- Have your child take the responsibility to speak to the coach about any concerns. It is important we teach students to communicate with adults in a mature manner.
- If the child’s conversation with the coach did not help reach a resolution, then the parent should meet with the coach directly.

- If the issue has not been resolved, parents can arrange an appointment with the Athletic Director. Some situations may require a conference between the coach, athlete and parent in order to reach a solution.
- If the issue warrants further discussion the parents arrange an appointment with the school administration.

Parents/Guardians/Guests Conduct

- A. Parents are responsible to support the students' decision to participate in a sport and to ensure that they complete the season according to the Player Guidelines.
- B. Parents are to arrange transport to and from practices and games. The school does not provide or arrange transportation to these activities. On rainy days or in poor weather, parents may call after 2:15 p.m. to find out whether or not scheduled practices and/or games have been cancelled.
- C. Parents are encouraged to attend games to support their children.
- D. Per our Parent/Student Handbook, parents are asked to volunteer three hours to the Athletic program for each sport each child participates in. (See *Volunteering for Athletics* below for more detail.)
- E. St. John Vianney Catholic School and Athletic Department demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and parents will refrain from their use at all sports events on and off campus.
- F. Parents and other guests are expected to be models of Catholic behavior as spectators at the activities and events. Conduct at practices and games must be supportive towards the players, the coaches, the referees, and the opposing teams. Parents are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is neither embarrassing nor damaging to the reputation of our team, our school or our parish community. Failure to abide by these expectations will cause the parent/guest to be banned from attendance at future games or practices.**
- G. Volunteer to help as line judges/score keepers. Two parent volunteers are required at each game.

Volunteering for Athletics

Parents are asked to volunteer three hours to the Athletic program for each sport each child participates in. This usually involves service during the respective seasonal sport and/or the respective seasonal tournament: fall volleyball and/or winter/spring basketball tournaments hosted at St. John Vianney Catholic School (whether or not your child is participating in that particular tournament). Athletic volunteer hours are separate from school volunteer hours. **If hours are uncompleted or if parents opt to buy out their participation will be at a rate of \$50 per hour for a possible total of \$150.00 for the 3 hours.**

Positive Coaching Alliance

The Diocese of San Jose Catholic Athletic League (DSJCAL) has adopted the Positive Coaching Alliance as a core fundamental in our athletics. The DSJCAL will require various materials from coaches, players and parents. In order to participate in St. John Vianney Athletics, participation and/or completion of these materials is mandatory. Failure to meet these requirements can result in loss of participation, loss of coaching and removal from attending school events/games.

Copyright and Creation of Fan-wear

All of the contents (St. John Vianney Catholic School Logo, St. John Vianney Catholic School Athletics Logo, color scheme and use of the “vikings” mascot related to St. John Vianney Catholic School) is not allowed for creation of fan and/or player wear, included but not limited to t-shirts, shorts, bags, sweatshirts or sweats, without approval from St. John Vianney Catholic School Administration and Athletic Department. Any unauthorized copying, alteration, distribution, transmission, performance, display or other use of these materials without consent and approval from St. John Vianney Catholic School Administration and Athletic Department is strictly prohibited.

Disclaimer:

The St. John Vianney Catholic School and Athletic Department reserves the right to edit and/or modify the St. John Vianney Catholic School Parent and Student Athletic Handbook at any time or when it seems fit.

Sports by Season and Eligible Grades

<u>FALL</u>	
Girls Volleyball	Girls 5 th through 8 th grades
Boys Flag Football	Boys 5 th through 8 th grades
<u>WINTER</u>	
Girls Basketball	Girls 5 th through 8 th grades
Boys Basketball	Boys 5 th through 8 th grades
<u>SPRING</u>	
Girls Flag Football	Girls 5 th through 8 th grades
Boys Volleyball	Boys 5 th through 8 th grades
Track and Field	Girls and Boys 5 th through 8 th grades