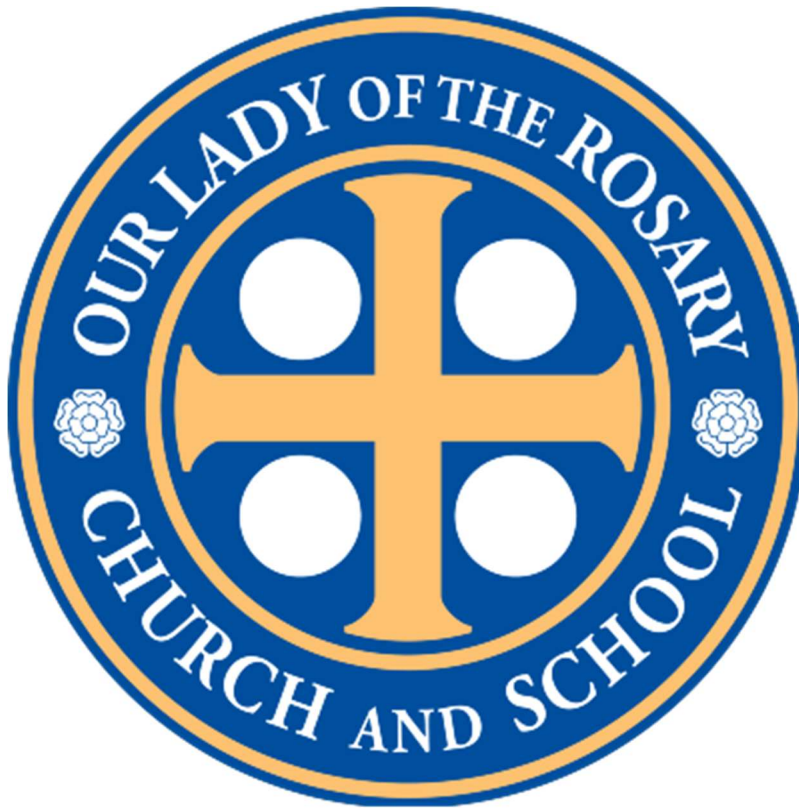


Our Lady of the Rosary (3rd Draft)

Athletic Handbook 2025-26



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Table of Contents

Restatement of Mission: 1

**Mission of Athletics at Our Lady of the Rosary
Classical School: 1**

The Dignity of the Body: 2

The K-12 Athletic Environment: 4

Sports Offered: 5

SCISA Affiliation: 5

Conduct of the Athlete: 6

Quitting: 7

OLR Coaching Philosophy: 8

Parent Compact: 8

Spectator Expectations: 9

Restatement of Mission:

Under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mission of Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School is to empower parents as the guardians of family life and the primary educators of their children.

Our classical program complements the sacred work of the parish by forming joyful disciples of Jesus Christ, equipped with the knowledge, wisdom, and virtue, to live out their vocations in accordance with the truth of the Catholic faith.

Mission of Athletics at Our Lady of the Rosary Classical School:

The purpose of athletics at Our Lady of the Rosary Classical school is to aid the parish community in making saints.

With mission of building saints, athletics when done correctly becomes an analogy that the student athlete can use to unpack their spiritual development. St. Paul impresses upon us to “work out our salvation in fear and trembling,”¹ while St. Catherine of Siena urges her children that, “Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring.”² The athletic experience finds its true value when it becomes a metaphor for the growth in holiness. We will not get to heaven, the purpose of our existence, without suffering. A properly oriented athletics programs trains the student to endure suffering with courage, and conviction.

Explanation of the Mission: When sport is done correctly, it prepares the players and the coaches to seek the face of God. When sport is done incorrectly, it is at best waste of time, and at worst antithetical to the pursuit of holiness.

In his work *Politics*, Aristotle argues that the most important educational activities are also the most useless.³ There is profound truth in this seemingly contradictory statement. The activities that the student chooses as an end activates the most humane attributes of the students: the intellect and the will. Because athletics engages the will and the intellect, athletics cultivates character. The athlete can either develop virtue or vice depending on how the community manages their program.

How are we to accomplish the mission of making saints through sport?

Through the theological virtues: faith, hope, and love.

In **faith**, we will trust one another to do the jobs assigned by the coaches. The coaches will trust the players to execute these jobs. The players will have faith in each other and in the community. Our faith in God informs us that our actions now have eternal significance, and our striving for excellence in sport is a striving for God himself. We will trust in God’s providence that we will be given the people and the facilities to accomplish the mission of becoming saints. A sub-virtue that we seek to cultivate underneath faith is resourcefulness. Instead of looking to individuals or objects outside our community, we will rely on each other, and the facilities that God

¹ Phil. 2:12

² <https://www.pietrafitness.com/pietra-fitness-blog/10-inspirational-quotes-from-catholic-saints-to-motivate-your-workout>

³ Aristotle, Pol 8.2.1338a9-14. Aristotle writes, “It is clear therefore that there is a form of education in which boys should be trained not because it is useful or necessary but as being liberal and noble; though whether there is one such subject of education or several, and what these are and how they are to be pursued...”

has blessed us with. These virtues will attack the vice of consumerism, in which we value an individual or an item only for how they serve us.

Faith in turn leads to **hope**. In hope, we will always pursue excellence. No matter if we are down by 20 or up by 50, we will have hope that in the next play, the next quarter, the next practice, the next game, we can improve. This hope will cause a relentless pursuit of the Good. And then, in faith, we will take tangible steps to accomplish our goals of improvement. Hope will attack our natural inclination to apathy and despair. When visitors come to our field or gym, the virtue of hope will be palpable to the outside as a family spirit. The visitor will note the hospitality of the OLR community, but also the relentless positivity of our teams and fans.

The animating virtue that will enliven Rosary athletics is **love**—self-sacrifice. Athletics will be pursued at OLR because we love the game, we love the team, the community. And most importantly, our time will be an act of thanksgiving in which we utilize the talents that God has given us. This love will allow us to put others before ourselves, in small, sustainable sacrifices. We will do the little things, the things that don't attract attention; things like sportsmanship, hustling, being a good teammate. We will do these little things with great love, in order to accomplish something that we can't accomplish on our own. These sacrifices will make us better brothers or sisters, sons or daughters, and hopefully, one day, fathers or mothers in the biological family or the spiritual family of the Church. We will do this by the grace of God.

Winning is the result of effort:

The success of a given season will be measured by virtues that the season has produced in the athletes. Winning is a byproduct of effort, and excellence is not created by winning. For example, some say that focusing on winning at the youth level can prevent the development of excellence and lead to losing in the long run.

John Wooden said, "Focus on effort, not winning. Winning is a byproduct of effort". He also believed that success is defined as the peace of mind attained only through self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do the best of which you're capable. As a community we will not be defining a season by the win-loss percentage but rather by the character development of the team: Were there moments of self-sacrifice that the coach can point to, moments of humility, and did the team exude the family spirit that OLR seeks to foster?

The Dignity of the Body

The importance of the body when it comes to the spiritual life has at all times been testified to by the doctrine of the Church and in the lives of the saints. Whether it was the early Church denouncing the licentiousness of the Nicolaitans,⁴ or St. Dominic combating the austerity of the Albigensian heresy,⁵ the Church has over and over again reemphasized the importance of the body in pursuing God. Following the vision of the human being laid out by Aristotle, man is his body and soul;⁶ the body is not an unimportant afterthought in God's plan of creation. St. John Paul II, in his lectures on the Theology of the Body, states, "The body, in fact, and only the body, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine." In testimony to this truth, the Body of Jesus becomes the instrument of our salvation in the Incarnation.

⁴ Revelation 2:6

⁵ Cathari, or Albigensians, Heretical Christian sect that flourished in Western Europe in the 12th–13th century. The Cathari adhered to the dualist belief that the material world is evil and that humans must renounce the world to free their spirits, which are good and long for communion with God.

⁶ (*Physics* i 7, 190a13–191a22)

Today, the Church is beset by similar ideologies and sins that she has combatted in the past, albeit in new forms—whether it is the belief that the body is a mere machine that can be changed by barbaric surgery, or profaned by sloth and overconsumption of unhealthy food.⁷ Athletics at OLR will play a key role in combating modern ideology and obesity trends. In pursuing excellence through athletics, the body gets incorporated in the pursuit of the true, good, and beautiful. In this way the OLR student athlete’s life should be such that the body expresses an inner life of grace.

An integral outcome for an OLR student is to become a lifelong learner; in like manner, we want the OLR student to become lifelong athletes who live long and healthy lives. The health benefits of exercise if regularly pursued cannot be overstated: Exercise reduces stress, builds self-confidence, improves sleep quality, and increases endorphins.⁸ A common misconception is that athletics diminish the academic pursuit; however, studies have indicated athletics help students in decision making and withstanding the mental rigors of higher education.⁹ Having an athletic outlet in between the school day and returning home will leave the student tired in body but content in mind. The contentment that exercise produces in the mind will prepare the student for homework and more importantly family life. This healthy balance between the body, mind, and soul allows the human person more fully to image God.

Modesty of Dress for Athletes:

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden... It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons and their solidarity” (CCC 2521). What one chooses to wear signals to others what you believe about the human body and the respect of each person. Athletic clothing can either promote the human dignity of people or draw attention through scandal. The Catechism continues, “Modesty inspires a way of life which makes it possible to resist the allurements of improper fashion and the pressures of prevailing ideologies” (CCC 2523). At OLR we will purchase and promote athletic clothing that demonstrates the virtue of modesty while allowing each athlete to reach his or her full potential. This will focus the attention on the play of the competition in respect to each player’s dignity. Athletic uniforms are required for all those participating in school sponsored teams. It is each player’s responsibility to respect his or her dignity and the dignity of others by not becoming the near occasion of sin to others, for “teaching modesty to children and adolescents means awakening in them respect for the human person” (CCC 2524). Practice attire must at a minimum match the game uniform that the school provides for each sport in standards of modesty (not shorter or tighter). Any coach or teacher has at their discretion the ability to ask the student athlete to sit out of the practice or a game for attire that they consider immodest. Athletic uniform shorts, pants, and jerseys may not be modified by either hemming or rolling to make them shorter or tighter. If a game uniform or inappropriate practice apparel is worn twice in a season it will be considered an extraordinary infraction (more information on this below). A Team Mom or Dad may be appointed by the coach to communicate with the student athlete of the same sex to inform the student athlete that their uniform needs to be changed or adjusted.

Biological Reality of the Human Person

The athletics program at OLR will witness to the truth and beauty of the biological reality of the human person. From the beginning, God’s vision of the human person as complimentary in biological sex but equal in dignity

⁷ For example, roughly one and six children are considered obese, and childhood obesity has risen 8% since 1990.

<https://stateofchildhoodobesity.org/demographic-data/ages-10-17>, <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/obesity-and-overweight>

⁸ <https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/stress-management/in-depth/exercise-and-stress/art-20044469>

⁹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9690464/>

is seen in the words, “Male and Female, he created them.”¹⁰ With this in mind, all OLR students will participate in the leagues according to the biological sex given to them by God. Furthermore, out of respect and concern for safety, all OLR teams will forfeit any games against opposing schools who introduce a biological male to a team of the opposite sex at the middle school and upper school levels. This forfeit will simultaneously protect our students from injury,¹¹ and more importantly, witness to the grandeur of God’s creation.

The K-12 Athletic Environment

The K-12 athletic environment provides a unique opportunity in the development of a team and a student athlete. In pursuit of the mission, OLR first and foremost works with families as a whole. The family dynamic means that the school can partner with a family for over 20 years in some cases. Students who start in kindergarten will be on teams with their classmates for over 13 years. Besides the time spent in games and in practices, these students will have countless hours on the playground and in gym class to develop a bond of friendship that they should bring into any competition. The goal of the community will be to have as many students participate in athletics, as long as possible.¹² This philosophy will manifest itself in tangible ways, including as many possible teams, with the minimum number of members for each team. This will allow for each student to receive the maximum amount of coaching and play time within practice and games. Gym classes will expose students to the fundamentals of the sports we offer as a community and partner with coaches in athletic development.

Multi-sport and In-season Prioritization

A key characteristic of the classical lifestyle is balance. At OLR we want our student athletes to participate in a wide variety of sports without compromising the commitment to the sport that is in season. The principle at work here is “jack of all trades, master of none.” With this in mind, we want each athlete to concentrate on the sport that is in season. This means two things: Only participating in an out of season sport if there is nothing scheduled for the in-season sport on that day, and furthermore, the out of season sport should have no a no-contact requirement if the sport seasons coincide. The goal in mind here is not only mastery of the in-season sport, but also protecting the integrity of the team by preventing unnecessary sport injuries.

The Importance of Athletic Training

While participation in a different sport while another is discouraged, persistent athletic training, on the other hand, is essential for the student athlete. The athletic department will offer two athletic training sessions a week alongside the various sports being offered. These sessions will improve conditioning and balance, build foundational strength, and ultimately, prevent future injury. Building up the healthy habit of athletic training benefits not only the student’s present, but his future as well, as we hope he will carry this habit with him for the rest of his life.

Statement on Recruiting

Since the athletics program of the school serves the mission of the school, the community will not be recruiting families based off the athletic potential of the children. When athletics is pursued over the mission of the school,

¹⁰ Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Gen 5:2, “Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created.”

¹¹ <https://www.foxnews.com/sports/high-school-volleyball-player-says-suffered-concussion-being-injured-trans-athlete-calls-ban>

¹² For an interesting discussion on this philosophy please see “As Many as Possible for as Long as Possible”—A Case Study of a Soccer Team That Fosters Multiple Outcomes. Martin K. Erikstad

the student athlete can experience the school culture negatively and in turn negatively affect the school culture. Our athletic program will partner with families who are first and foremost concerned with the mission of the school. Rather than recruiting, OLR will be undertaking the process of development, working with the students for over a decade.

Lower School Expectations: Lower School athletics will be recreational in nature. Families can expect one to two practices a week, and one competition. Playing time will be determined solely by attendance of practices, not skill level. Playing time will be egalitarian in nature, allowing for as much game play experience as possible.

Middle School/Junior Varsity Expectations: In Middle School, the athletics program will not only factor practice attendance but also skill level into playing time opportunities. Players will earn different amounts of playing time off of performance in and out of practice. Practices will be egalitarian in nature, allowing for the development of every single member of the team. However, in region and tournament games, playing time is earned by previous game and practice performance.

Upper school (Varsity) Expectations: In Upper school, the athletics program will not only factor consistent practice attendance but also skill level into playing time opportunities. Practices will be egalitarian in nature, allowing for the development of every single member of the team. An Upper school student will earn competition time by previous game and practice performance.

Any athlete that decides to play upper school athletics has to be mentally prepared to play in any given game. However, this attitude should extend to accepting a spot of the bench through certain competitive games. It is a reality that not every player will play every game. There is a certain justice due to an athlete who has trained from a young age to achieve a degree of excellence. Our program appreciates that different levels of play and excellence can be reached through hard work and dedication, and student athletes are given something to strive for when they see the success of their peers.

Lessons from the sideline: The educational, physical, and spiritual benefits of athletics extend far beyond the playing time on the court or field. One player may have to sacrifice a starting position for a game to ensure the most competitive lineup for a game, another player might have to participate in the game by providing a positive attitude from the sideline. Both actions are sacrifices, which is at the heart of the athletics program. How a player handles this sacrifice will provide invaluable experience for later on in life. The OLR athletics program seeks to create a family atmosphere that will bring members of the community into union. Regardless of if a student gets to play the entire game, or does not make it into a competition, he or she will be treated as a valuable member of the community.

CONDUCT OF THE ATHLETE

Classroom and Campus Conduct of the Athlete

Christianity sets out a moral vision for the human person that compels the individual to reach his or her full potential. Rather than being at competition with us, God creates us to maximize the gifts He has given each one of us. St Irenaeus writes, “For the glory of God is a living man; and the life of man consists in beholding

God.”¹³ The Christian has the moral obligation to present his entire life to God, as a living sacrifice for the aid of others. With this in mind, the student athlete cannot compartmentalize his moral behavior from his intellectual pursuits and athletic performance. It is our hope that the athletic performance will garner confidence that the athlete can take back to the classroom in order to succeed both morally and academically. This positive cycle will undoubtedly be met with common challenges that adolescence presents. It is important for us as a community to have an explicit approach to moral lapses that will reorient the student towards the good and will allow him to flourish.

The Dean of Students will ensure that the behavior of all athletes will be monitored and recorded, and OLR will have a 3-strike policy for extraordinary infractions. Please see the Preventive System handbook for a list of all ordinary and extraordinary infractions. After the 1st extraordinary infraction, the Dean of Students will meet with the student and the teacher to review the incident. This meeting will clearly outline what happened in the incident, and also give guidelines on how to repair the student-teacher relationship. The resulting contract will give clear guidelines to prevent any future disruptions. The parents of the student will be notified, and the coach will be notified of the outcomes of the meeting. After the 2nd extraordinary infraction, the parents and coach will be notified, and the player will sit out the next athletic competition. Finally, after the third extraordinary infraction, the student will be ineligible for the remainder of the academic calendar.

*In-Competition Conduct of the Athlete*¹⁴:

It is the responsibility of the administration and coaching staff to promote positive sporting behavior. When representing OLR, the student athlete has the profound opportunity to manifest the mission of the school through competition. St. Peter in his letter urges the Christian to be ready to make defense of the Gospel at all times.¹⁵ Furthermore, St. Paul urges the believer to present himself as a living sacrifice.¹⁶ Our mission presents a challenge to student athlete to fulfill. Each student-athlete is expected to:

1. Accept and understand the seriousness of his/her responsibility, and the privilege of representing the school and community.
2. Live up to the standards of sporting behavior established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
3. Learn the rules of the game thoroughly, and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist the student and others to achieve a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
4. Treat opponents the way the student-athlete would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than the participating athlete to create understanding of all the hard work and team effort that is required of the sport?
5. Refrain from taunting, trash-talking and making any kind of derogatory remarks to an opponent during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature. Refrain from intimidating behavior.

¹³ Irenaeus of Lyons, *“Irenæus against Heresies,”* in *The Apostolic Fathers with Justin Martyr and Irenaeus*, ed. Alexander Roberts, James Donaldson, and A. Cleveland Coxe, vol. 1, The Ante-Nicene Fathers (Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Company, 1885), 490.

¹⁴ We are indebted to Mr. Shepherd Anders for the contribution of this section

¹⁵ 1 Peter 3:15: “¹⁵ but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence.”

¹⁶ Rom. 12:1-2: “I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect”

6. Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
7. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. The officials are doing their best, and treating them with respect will make a positive impact on all the people at the event.
8. Win with humility; lose with grace, and do both with dignity. Avoid excessive celebrating after a play or the end of a game.

Off-Campus Conduct of the Student Athlete

OLR student athletes are personally responsible for their conduct off-campus and content they publish online or in group texts. If an off-campus infraction comes to the community's attention, it will directly impact the eligibility of the student athlete. Furthermore, all online interaction and off-campus behavior should reflect the same standards of honesty, respect, and consideration that is used face-to-face. Athletes should consider social media presence to be an extension of their classroom or court that thoughtfully and appropriately represents OLR's mission and core values.¹⁷

Academic Eligibility¹⁸

Article VI - Eligibility Rules: Student Section I: Academic Requirements: Academic achievement is a prerequisite to participation.

- A. In order to participate in athletic activities of the South Carolina Independent School Association, a student must be enrolled in and attending the member school in order to participate in that school's athletic program. The student must also meet all other necessary requirements for participation.
- B. A student in grades 9-12 must take and pass at least four (4), one unit CORE Courses or any five (5) one unit courses, each grading period (6/9/12 week) or semester to be eligible. - Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester. - A senior who has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation must pass four (4), one-credit courses each marking period/semester. - A student who is repeating a course for which he/she has previously received credit cannot count this course as one required for eligibility.
- C. A Maximum of Two Credits earned/recovered during summer sessions may be accepted from an accredited school with an established summer school program.
- D. First Semester Academic Eligibility: A student must have earned a minimum of 4 core units or any 5 units of credit from the previous school year to be declared eligible for the First Semester (Fall) of a school year. - Any student who did not receive credit for at least one-half of all courses taken the previous school year cannot be declared eligible until after the successful completion of the 1st Semester. - Block Schedule: At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school. (Example: a student who earned 4 units for the first semester but withdrew/dropped-out the 2nd semester shall be declared ineligible for the First Semester).
- E. Home School Courses. If a school allows a student to take courses at "home", those course are not eligible for athletic eligibility.
- F. Schools providing non-traditional academic programs such as "virtual school", distance learning or other non- traditional courses shall seek prior approval by SCISA before these courses may be used for athletic

¹⁷ https://www.lubbockchristian.org/Social-Media_Policy-and-Guidelines_1.pdf

¹⁸ SCISA BLUE BOOK ATHLETIC Constitution

eligibility. COVID-19 Exception: Schools who offer virtual/online classes can count them toward athletic eligibility.

G. Core Courses: Those courses in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science (1), Fine Arts(1) and Foreign Language that are recommended by the Commission on Higher Education and are common to SCISA schools.

H. A One Credit Course is a course taken for 36 weeks, one period each day for a minimum of 45 minutes. A course taken each day as above for 18 weeks would be a half credit which when combined with another half credit course would be the equivalent of a one credit course. A course taken for 36 weeks but only three, 45 minute periods each week would not be a one credit course. Note: A One Credit Course taken for 18 weeks, shall meet for one period each day for a minimum of 90 minutes. - Dual Credit Courses are treated as one half of a carnige unit.

I. Eligibility is to be declared on the fourth (4th) school day after the end of the marking period. A student shall become eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on the fourth school day after the end of the marking period.

Example 1: The marking period ends on Friday. Student X becomes eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on Thursday. Example 2: The marking period ends on a Monday and Tuesday is a holiday for students. Student Y becomes eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on the following Monday.

Music and Technology use for games and practices:

While technology has a great capacity to connect people from great distances, there is an appropriate use and time to make use of it. This capacity does not apply to athletic events, however, where person to person interactions should be the norm. Athletics, when done correctly, also has a great capacity to connect people. What we want to refrain from is athletes and spectators staring down at a cell phone when they could be experiencing the school community through athletics. Having our eyes on the competitors also gives the respect due to the work athletes put in to preparing for that event. The only time a student athlete or spectator should have a phone out is to contact a ride, and they should do so away from the athletic event (in the cafeteria or outside the event). Any coach or school parent can enforce this rule. Parents can aid students in following this rule by modeling moderate cell phone use.

Music in the context of athletics is meant to add joy and spirit to the atmosphere. However, if a team plays a specific song that contradicts the school's mission, then the privilege of using music to warm up will be revoked for the rest of the season. If a parent, spectator, or student brings this to the attention of the athletic director or on-site support, the lyrics will be reviewed before the decision is made. Music might be allowed at specific practices; however, individual headphones are never allowed during practice. This includes weight-lifting and cross-country. Individual headphones tend to divide the user from his or her environment or team, which can be divisive or even dangerous, depending on the activity. Therefore, all music played at practices will be listened to in common and must follow the mission of the school. Again, use of inappropriate music will result in loss of music privileges for the duration of the season, and can be elevated to an extraordinary discipline matter. Athletics is about cultivating the goodness of the body, and music which denigrates the body undermines that mission.

Quitting:

An upper school athlete may not stop participating on a sports team until a parent has contacted the athletic director and the athlete has met with the athletic director. No fees will be refunded. If there are extenuating circumstances, however, the athletic director can make a decision to allow the student to play in the next season.

Character is not built by quitting. Trying times are not times to quit trying. A student may drop off the team any time before the first game without penalty. After that period of time, no student may quit the team without penalty. There should be a strong sense of belonging to the team, even when personal injuries would restrict the individual's participation in practices and games. An injured player is expected to be at all practices and games as if he/she is healthy. Any athlete who quits a team during the season will sit out the following sports seasons. (Example: An athlete who quits a winter sport will have to sit out the spring sport.) Any athlete who leaves the team while on academic probation and does not return will be deemed to have quit. An athlete who quits will be removed from the team roster and will forfeit any postseason awards. Exceptions to this rule would be for family hardships, severe injury, or serious academic problems.¹⁹

OLR Coaching Philosophy:

The main goal of the coaching at OLR is to develop saintly young men and women, and all coaches will be selected with this mission in mind.

In training his Salesian Brothers in the art of teaching, St. John Bosco states, "Teachers seen only in the classroom are simply teachers. If they mingle with the students outside the classroom, they become brothers and sisters."²⁰ While this quote particularly applies to teaching staff, who are also on the coaching staff, the quote is still relevant for the philosophy of the coach. A coach walks alongside the student athlete during some of the most memorable experiences of his or her life up to that point. Practices and games provide difficult tasks that bring out positive and negative emotions. The coach is a guide through difficult tasks that allow the student athlete not to be controlled by the pride that comes with a win or the desolation of a loss. The coach must be a model of courage and temperance in order to instill in his or her team a spirit of self-sacrifice that is needed daily in the practice of the Christian life. Someone who is good *with* student athletes may not necessarily be up to the task of encouraging the student athlete through difficulty. A coach must be good *for* the student athlete, and like a good parent who gives the child what they need for growth in holiness, not placate their base emotions.

Team Awards: Any sort of accolade or scholarship that might be awarded to the student athlete because of worthy participation is a welcome result of a program focused on virtue, but not the primary focus. For example, the end of season awards will either focus on specific statistics or growth in virtue. Internal awards like "Team MVP" are often nebulous and take away from the spirit of self-sacrifice. If a member of an OLR team should be voted "Player of the Year" for the region or state, however, our school will be honored to have one of its student athletes identified as excellent by the region as a whole.

¹⁹ <https://www.greenvillechristian.com/editoruploads/files/Athletic%20Handbook%202023-2024.pdf>

²⁰ [https://sistercolleen.wordpress.com/category/salesian/don-](https://sistercolleen.wordpress.com/category/salesian/don-bosco/#:~:text=The%20first%20duty%20of%20an,his%2Fher%20heart%20in%20confidence.)

[bosco/#:~:text=The%20first%20duty%20of%20an,his%2Fher%20heart%20in%20confidence.](https://sistercolleen.wordpress.com/category/salesian/don-bosco/#:~:text=The%20first%20duty%20of%20an,his%2Fher%20heart%20in%20confidence.)

Parent Compact:

Parents should primarily want their child in OLR athletics because of the program's emphasis on virtue development. Should a question of playing time or some other like matter arise, parents should teach the student athlete the art of self-advocacy. The parent could set up a meeting between the student athlete and the coach, but in an ideal world, the parent would entrust the student athlete to talk to the coach after a practice. If parent presence is needed in the conversation, the parent should not be the driving force behind the conversation but rather allow the student athlete to express his or her concerns directly. One day the student athlete will have to advocate for him or herself, and sports provide the opportunity to practice these difficult conversations.

Furthermore, parents and adults involved in school-sponsored events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control. Parents shall abide by:

- 1). **A 24-hour rule where they do not criticize their athlete or question the coach concerning an athletic event or performance at an athletic event.** This definitively precludes parents from speaking to the coach, their child, or the refs during a game or practice.
- 2). The discussion of playing time shall be with the **coach, parent and athlete** if there are questions. Questions can ONLY be addressed through a scheduled, one-on-one, in-person meeting between player, parent, and coach. Playing time directly applies to performance during athletic contests, practice attendance, and attitude during practice.
- 3.) Encouragement of their athlete to exhibit positive behavior and to not engage in unsportsmanlike behavior toward any coach, other parent, opponent, official or any other attendee at events.
- 4.) Encourage positive relationships with the coach by reinforcing the principles of the coach's philosophy, discipline, and team goals. If the 24-hour rule is not followed by the parent, then student can be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.
- 5) Parents are **required to attend** a preseason meeting to discuss parent conduct during the athletic season. Not being in attendance at the meeting could result in loss of eligibility for the player.

In keeping Matthew 18:15-20, "If your brother sins against you, go to him in private and tell him his fault...", all constructive criticism should follow this Biblical norm. If general criticism is brought up the headmaster or athletic director, the parent will be directed to take his concern to the coach first.

Spectator Expectations²¹

Spectators should come to enjoy the event and cheer on all student athletes competing in the contest. Spectators should NOT communicate any negative comments towards other fans, officials, coaches, or student athletes. This of course precludes yelling at officials.

Spectators are only allowed on the bench or to talk with officials and coaches if an to a player occurs.

DISCIPLINE FOR NEGATIVE BEHAVIOR

- Any spectator unable to avoid negative behavior will be addressed by Our Lady of the Rosary staff or staff at away contests.
- Spectators will be removed if they are deemed to be displaying conduct that negatively impacts the operation of the contest and support of other spectators or individuals involved in the event.

²¹ https://www.newingtonathletics.com/Content/Spectator_Expectations.asp

*****ANY DISCIPLINE LEVEL CAN BE ACCELERATED UPON REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION*****

- Any spectator who has been removed will not be allowed to re-enter the contest
- If a spectator is removed at a home or away contest more than once, they will be subject to a two week suspension from all sporting events and must complete the NFHS Course “Sportsmanship” (<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/sportsmanship-2>) and provide the certificate of completion to the Athletics Office in order to attend an event after the 2 week suspension is complete.
- If a spectator is removed at a home or away contest more than twice, they are not allowed to attend any sporting events for the remainder of the school year.

Sports Offered

Fall: 5-12 Cross Country, MS Boys Soccer, MS and US Girls Volleyball

Winter: Church League Basketball K-5th grade, MS Girls and Boys Basketball, US Girls and Boys Basketball k-5th grade Cheerleading.

Spring: Youth Soccer, MS Girls Soccer, MS and US Girls and Boys Basketball

SCISA affiliation

OLR will compete in the 2A classification of South Carolina Independent school Association. Within the 2A classification our MS and US teams will compete in Region 4. Our success in Region 4 will dictate our participation and placement for any state tournaments.

SCISA 2 A Teams

Andrew Jackson	Community Christian	Laurens Academy
Beaufort Academy	Conway Christian	Lee Academy
Bethesda Academy	Cross Schools	Oakbrook Prep
Carolina Academy	Dorchester Academy	Our Lady of the Rosary
Cathedral Academy	Faith Christian	The King’s Academy
Charleston Collegiate	Holy Trinity Classical	Thomas Heyward

SCISA 2 A Region 4

Community Christian (CCA)
Laurens Academy (LA)
Oakbrook Prep (OP)
Our Lady of the Rosary (OLR)

