

## **501: Athletic Policy**

### I. Purpose:

- a. The mission of athletics is to provide an enjoyable educational experience for students that supports the development of the student's self-esteem, citizenship, responsibility, and skills in cooperative and leadership behaviors are positive outcomes of the PCA athletics program. These programs should be enjoyable, vigorous, safe, and should occur in a positive climate with appropriate adult supervision and support. Trinity collided with another student

### II. Definitions:

- a. Athletes: Students participating in extra-curricular activities that involve athletic competition such as, but not limited to, football, baseball, soccer, cheerleading, basketball, softball, and lacrosse.

### III. Policy Statement:

- a. The program goals are threefold:
  - i. To provide a fun sport for the students
  - ii. To learn the basic skills of that particular ~~activity-sport~~
  - iii. To develop cooperation, sportsmanship, leadership, and build self-esteem.
- b. In order to provide this experience for our students, a sixty-five (\$65) dollar athletic fee is required for each sport, excluding competition cheer. Competition cheer has a one hundred (\$100) dollar athletic fee. This fee will assist in paying for transportation, uniforms, official fees, etc.
- c. Alcohol and Other Drugs (AODA) Policy:
  - i. Any participant who is judged to be in possession of and/or using alcohol or other drugs, which includes tobacco products and commercial products used for something other than their intended use, will be dropped from that activity and/or not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.
- d. Physical Exams
  - i. All students are required to have a new DIAA health physical, signed by a certified physician and parent/guardian, on file at school before participation in any athletic sport. The physical must be administered on or

after April 1<sup>st</sup> to be used for the following school year. The only acceptable form is the DIAA health form. **No other physical form will be accepted.**

- ii. For a copy of the DIAA form, please see the link on the PCA athletic webpage. Physicals may be emailed, faxed, or dropped off at the main office.

e. Team Selection:

- i. Athletics are meant to be a participatory activity in which as many students as possible are allowed to participate. However, it is recognized that there is a limit with regards to space and manageability which may force coaches of some activities to limit the number of students allowed to participate.

- ii. The size of each sports team will be determined by the following criteria:

1. All students attend a minimum of three consecutive practices/tryouts in order to be evaluated.
2. Coaches evaluate students and make roster selections according to the following criteria (in no particular order):

- a. Ability
- b. Effort/Attitude
- c. School behavior
- d. Commitment to AODA contract
- e. Classroom work completion
- f. Classroom academic progress
- g. Grade level –
  - i. In the case of all else being equal, an emphasis will be placed on keeping the student from the highest-grade level.

3. Note: These expectations are expected to be met throughout the school year, not JUST during the particular season in question as specified in the behavior contract which is signed at the beginning of the year. Failure to comply is grounds for exclusion from the team.

f. Student Eligibility:

- i. Student Records:

1. Must be a current PCA student who meets the academic requirements.
2. DIAA physical must be current (on or after April 1<sup>st</sup>).

3. Emergency Medical Card
4. Signed Athletic agreement

ii. Unexcused absences:

1. Any participant will be allowed no more than 2 unexcused absences from practice. If there are more than 2 unexcused practices or games the student will be dropped from that particular sport:
2. Unexcused absences include the following:
  - a. A person receiving a detention/suspension will be ineligible for extra-curricular activities the day of the detention/suspension. This is considered an unexcused absence.
  - b. If a student is in school and does not come to practice without notifying his/her coach/teacher beforehand regarding the reason for the absences, it will be considered an unexcused absence.
  - c. If a team member is asked to leave a practice or game for unacceptable behavior (as described in the PCA handbook), it will be considered an unexcused absence.

iii. Eligibility:

1. A student's academic and behavioral progress will be determined the second Monday of each month. The athletic director/coach will supply a list of team members to all appropriate teachers the week prior to each check-in.
2. Students must maintain a "C" average in three of the four core classes (i.e., ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science) in order to tryout in school athletics.
3. A student will be deemed ineligible if the following criteria is met:
  - a. They are receiving a "D" or below in two or more of their core classes (i.e., ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science).
  - b. They have incompletes in one or more classes.
  - c. They have demonstrated poor behavior in one or more classes as defined by the PCA Student Handbook.
4. A student athlete that becomes ineligible to play at the monthly check-in may become re-eligible to participate in games and practice once a new grade of a (C) is earned.

5. It is the ineligible athlete's responsibility to provide written documentation from that teacher to the coach one day before the game to become eligible to play.
6. A behavioral infraction of Level 2 resulting in a behavioral referral will render the student ineligible for one game. This shall count as an unexcused absence as outlined above.
7. A behavior infraction of Level 3 or higher resulting in a behavior referral will render the student ineligible for the rest of the season.
8. Any general school discipline directed from PCA administration will take precedence over the extra-curricular policies.
9. In the event a player becomes ineligible to play they are still to attend all practices, but not actively participate in the practice. If an athlete does not attend it will count as an unexcused absent.

g. Appeals:

i. If an athlete would like to appeal a decision he/she must:

1. Contact the Athletic Director and the Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator immediately in order to discuss the situation and present the reasons for the appeal. Appeals must be made in writing within five working days of the initial decision.
2. If the Athletic Director's and the Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator decision stands, a parent may appeal the decision to the Head of School. A meeting will be set up with the athletic director, the parent, a member of administration, and the coach in order to discuss the situation and reach a resolution (if necessary).
3. Note that while an appeal is in motion, the original decision will be in effect.
4. The Head of School will only hear appeals when the policy has been violated.

h. Out of Season Participation/Coaching:

- i. Students are free to participate in whichever off-season activities they choose. There is a DIAA conference rule against a school coach coaching a student while that sport is not in season if that student may be on that coach's team during the upcoming season.
- ii. Based on the DIAA Regulations, all non-season activities are voluntary and cannot be held accountable for attendance participation.

IV. Responsibility:

- i. PCA coaches and volunteers will be held to the same professional standards as all other staff. This includes acting in accordance with all applicable PCA policies and procedures.
- ii. Parents and community are responsible for adhering to the spectator code of conduct located on the DIAA requirements link.
- iii. Students are responsible for adhering to this policy the student code of conduct and all applicable DIAA regulations.

V. Related Policies:

- a. [Bullying Policy](#)
- b. [Social Media Policy](#)
- c. [Controlled Substance Policy](#)
- d. [Student Code of Conduct](#)

VI. Related Procedures and Documents:

- a. [DIAA Requirements](#)
- b. [DIAA Physical Form](#)
- c. Coaches Handbook

Approval and Revision Dates:

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOVEMBER 19, 2003

REVISED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECEMBER 20, 2005

REVISED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APRIL 15, 2008

REVISED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS JULY 19, 2011

REVISION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## **Athletic Policy**

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Providence Creek Academy Charter School athletics is to provide an enjoyable educational experience for students based on their developmental characteristics and needs. The development of the student's self-esteem, citizenship, responsibility, and skills in cooperative and leadership behaviors are positive outcomes of the PCA athletics program. These programs should be enjoyable, vigorous, and safe and should occur in a positive climate with appropriate adult leadership and support.

The program goals are threefold:

A. To provide a fun activity for the students.

B. To learn the basic skills of that particular activity.

C. To develop cooperation, sportsmanship, leadership, and personal improvement skills

In order to provide this experience for our students, a fifty (50) dollar athletic fee is required for each sport. This fee will assist in paying for transportation, uniforms, official fees, etc.

Athletes are defined as students participating in extra-curricular activities that involve athletic competition such as, but not limited to, Football, Baseball, Soccer, Cheerleading and Field Hockey.

### **Alcohol and Other Drugs (AODA) Policy**

Any participant who is judged to be in possession of and/or using alcohol or other drugs, which includes tobacco products and commercial products used for something other than their intended use, will be dropped from that activity and/or not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

### **Team Selection**

The privilege of participating in the PCA extra-curricular program is extended to all students. Athletics at Providence Creek Academy Charter School are meant to be a participatory activity in which as many students as possible are allowed to participate. However, it is recognized that there is a limit with regards to space and manageability which may force coaches of some activities to limit the number of students allowed to participate.

Using the following procedures, it is up to each individual coach to determine the size of his/her squad, as long as the participation goal is kept as the primary motivating factor.

A. Students turn in permission slips to the athletic director. The coach then decides whether a cut is necessary and if so, how many students are to be cut.

B. All students attend a minimum of the first two practices/tryouts in order to be evaluated.

C. Coaches evaluate students and make roster selections according to the following criteria (in no particular order):

1. Ability
2. Effort/Attitude
3. School behavior
4. Commitment to AODA contract
5. Classroom work completion
6. Classroom academic progress
7. Grade level. In the case of all else being equal, an emphasis will be placed on keeping the student from the highest grade level.

NOTE: These expectations are expected to be met throughout the school year, not JUST during the particular season in question as specified in the behavior contract which is signed at the beginning of the year. Failure to comply is grounds for exclusion from the team.

### **Student Eligibility**

#### **A. Student Records**

1. Authorization for Participation in Athletics including a Physical form and a parent's signature. Physical must be current within a calendar year.
2. Signed Athletic Code
3. Emergency Medical Card
4. Must be legally registered as a student at Providence Creek Academy Charter School.

#### **B. Unexcused absences**

1. Any participant will be allowed no more than 2 unexcused absences from practice/activities. If there are more than 2 unexcused practices, games, or activities, the student will be dropped from that particular sport/activity.
2. Unexcused absences include the following:
  - a. A person receiving a detention/suspension will be ineligible for extra-curricular activities the day of the detention/suspension. This is considered an unexcused absence.
  - b. If a student is in school and does not come to practice without notifying his/her coach/advisor beforehand regarding the reason for the absences, it will be considered an unexcused absence.
  - c. A student will not be allowed to participate if the student doesn't have the required suitable attire as judged by the coach/advisor. This is considered an unexcused absence.
  - d. If a team/activity member is asked to leave a practice, game, or activity for unacceptable behavior, it will be considered an unexcused absence.
  - e. If a student is deemed ineligible for an event, it will be considered an unexcused absence.

#### **C. Academic Eligibility**

1. You must maintain a "C" average in each course that you are enrolled in at Providence Creek Academy Charter School in order to tryout in school athletics.
2. You must maintain a "C" average at each marking period in each course that you are enrolled in at the Providence Creek Academy Charter School for participation in the athletic program.
3. You must maintain an overall 2- in the Citizenship Grade for participation in the Athletic Program

## ~~—D. Eligibility~~

- ~~1. A student's academic and behavioral progress will be determined on a per game basis. The athletic director/coach will supply a list of team members to all appropriate teachers the day prior to each game.~~
- ~~2. Eligibility for activities held during a weekend and/or vacation period will be determined the last day of school previous to the weekend and/or vacation.~~
- ~~3. A student will be deemed ineligible if on the day prior to a game or event:
  - ~~a. They are receiving a failing grade in one or more classes.~~
  - ~~b. They have incompletes in one or more classes.~~
  - ~~c. They have demonstrated poor behavior in one or more classes as defined by the PCA Student Handbook.~~~~
- ~~4. A student athlete that becomes ineligible to play, at the end of a marking period may become re-eligible to participate in games and practice once a new grade of a 77 (C) or above is entered for the new marking period~~
- ~~5. In addition to official athletic department eligibility, a student may also be subject to individual team rules as determined by the coach/advisor of that activity.~~
- ~~6. A behavioral infraction of Level 2 or higher resulting in a behavioral referral will render the student ineligible for one game/event. This shall count as an unexcused absence as outlined above.~~
- ~~7. Any general school discipline directed from PCA administration will take precedence over the extra-curricular policies.~~
- ~~8. In the event a player becomes ineligible to play they are still to attend all practices and games, but to participate in the event. If an athlete does not attend it will count as an unexcused absent.~~
- ~~9. In the event that the team does not have enough eligible players to hold a game, the team will forfeit the game, but still play the game as a scrimmage.~~
- ~~10. A student athlete must maintain an overall 2- in order to participate in all practice or games.~~

## **Responsibilities of Others**

~~Students are not the only group associated with the school to have a responsibility to the athletic program.~~

~~Parents, Coaches, and the Administration also must conduct themselves in accordance to the rules of good sportsmanship and ambassadorship.~~

~~Because athletes look up to the coaching staff, the staff will conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. They must also be knowledgeable in the sport or sports they are involved in coaching.~~

~~Parents need to support the athletic program by making sure their child is keeping up with school work and maintaining grades. Parents must also keep a positive attitude when speaking to their child about all aspects of the schooling process.~~

~~The administration plays a very important role in the life of an athletic program. The athletic program looks to the administration for financial support, provide safe appropriate facilities and equipment.~~



## **Coach Evaluation**

In order to improve the overall quality of coaching at PCA and to involve the families in the athletic program at PCA, informal evaluation of coaches will be offered to the athletes and parents/guardians of athletes at the conclusion of each season.

Forms will be handed out to all participating athletes and their parents/guardians and returned to the athletic director in order to insure anonymity. The athletic director will in turn share the comments with the respective coach.

Feedback forms will include items such as:

- VII. — How well did your coach know their sport/activity?
- VIII. — How fairly/respectfully did your coach treat you/your child?
- IX. — How well did your coach communicate with you and your child?
- X. — What were your coach's strengths?
- XI. — What could your coach improve?
- XII. — How organized was your coach?
- XIII. — Overall, how much did your child enjoy their season?

We also encourage you to offer praise to your child's coach when warranted, as personal feedback is very meaningful to the coaches at PCA.

## **Appeals**

Hopefully, the PCA Athletic Policies are relatively clear cut and the decisions made by the PCA coaching staff are understandable and fair. However, if you feel that you would like to appeal a decision:

- XIV. — Contact the athletic director immediately in order to discuss the situation and present the reasons for your appeal. Appeals must be made within 7 working days of the initial decision.
- XV. — If the athletic director's decision stands, a parent may appeal the decision to the administration, upon which time a meeting will be set up between the athletic director, the parent, a member of administration, and possibly the coach in order to discuss the situation and reach a resolution.
- XVI. — Note that while an appeal is in motion, the original decision will be in effect.

## **Out of Season Participation/Coaching**

Obviously, students are free to participate in whichever off-season activities they choose. However, note that there is a conference rule against a school coach coaching a student while that sport is not in season if that student may be on that coach's team during the upcoming season.

~~Approved by the Board of Director November 19, 2003~~

~~Revised by the Board of Directors December 20, 2005~~

~~Revised by the Board of Directors April 15, 2008~~

~~Revised by the Board of Directors July 19, 2011~~

~~I have read and understand all sections of the athletic policy at PCA. I pledge to uphold these duties and policy, and represent my school as a student athlete. My signature below signifies that I am responsible for abiding these rules and consequences if policy is broken.~~

~~Athlete/Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Date \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Sport \_\_\_\_\_~~