

First Baptist Academy  
Athletics Manual  
2011-2012

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## **Philosophy of Athletics**

The primary purpose of FBA Athletics is to provide an avenue through which the coaches and students may bring glory and honor to God. Athletics is a tool that will be used to further train and equip our student-athletes

Our athletes who commit themselves to excellence and learn to deal with success and failure on the playing field will carry this ability with them throughout their lives. The goal of our athletic program is the development and welfare of Christian character traits. It is intended to develop an athlete physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially and in so doing, bring the young person closer to God.

Physically, athletics provides our athletes with the opportunity to develop to their full potential, including the ability to go beyond the limits of normal endurance.

Emotionally, our athletes learn to control themselves under pressure. In a single contest, the athlete may need to deal with elation, frustration, anger, and fear. He or she must learn to win gracefully and to bounce back in the face of defeat.

Intellectually, our athletes develop and exercise their minds as they learn and use the rules, strategies, and plays of the game. They develop mental toughness as they learn to push themselves toward excellence.

Finally, our athletes develop socially. They learn to submit to authority as they interact with the coaching staff and officials under the regulations of the game. Through team play they learn cooperation, communication and loyalty as the team strives toward a common goal.

Our primary goal is to develop a program that is not only competitive, but would ultimately glorify Jesus Christ and be a positive experience for all who participate in it.

### **Athletic Department Profile**

**Mascot:** Eagles

**Colors:** Red, White and Navy Blue

**Leagues:** Middle School Knoxville Independent School League, Smoky Mountain Middle School Soccer, Knoxville Track Club

**Sports:** Cross Country, Track and Field, Basketball, Girls Soccer, Co-Ed Soccer

## **Expectations**

### **Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director**

1. The AD will provide as many opportunities as possible for students to compete on the Middle School and High School level. This can be accomplished by insuring the school remains in good standing with our league as well as the state governing bodies.
2. The athletic director will provide appropriate support to the coaches, student-athletes, and parents. (including paperwork, needed materials, etc.)
3. Resolve conflicts which might arise among the shareholders of the athletic department.

### **Coaches**

1. The coach will seek to encourage spiritual growth of the student-athletes on his or her team.
2. The coach will organize and execute practices designed to prepare the team for the season as well as develop athletic skills that may be useful in the proper functioning of the team.
3. Coaches will monitor the academic progress of the students on their team and take steps necessary to aid the student-athlete in the pursuit of academic requirements.
4. Coaches will create an atmosphere within the team that promotes spiritual, physical and mental discipline.
5. Coaches will model behavior and beliefs that are consistent with the Bible and the beliefs of First Baptist Academy.
6. Coaches will model the level of commitment expected of the student-athletes by holding organized and punctual practices.

### **Student-Athletes**

1. Student-athletes will strive each day to work to their full potential. They will not be satisfied with their current abilities and will work within the concepts and strategies provided by the coaching staff to constantly improve athletically.
2. Student-athletes will strive to work to their full potential in the classroom as well. They will not be satisfied with their current abilities and will work within the concepts and strategies provided by their teachers and administration to constantly improve themselves academically.
3. Students-athletes will work together with their teammates and coaches toward a common goal.
4. Student-athletes will learn to resolve conflicts with others in a manner that is consistent with Biblical principles.

### **Parents**

1. Parents will support their student-athlete with both words of praise and an attitude of encouragement both on the playing fields and at home.
2. Parents will support the decisions of the coach at home and at the school when the student-athlete is present. It is nearly impossible to promote successful athletic programs when one or more parents are subverting the efforts of the coach when the child is at home, practice, or athletic contests.

3. Parents will respect all decisions that coaches make concerning playing time, playing positions and roster choices.
4. Parents will discuss concerns with the coach in scheduled meetings that cannot be held immediately following contests or practices. If the issue is not resolved, parents may bring the concern to the Athletic Director. If there is still no resolution, the parents should schedule an appointment with the Administrator. If there is still no resolution then they should request a hearing in writing from the FBA Board.

### **Guidelines**

1. Physicals: Each student-athlete must have a physical form on file before participating in a contest for FBA. Forms that may be used for this purpose will be provided for the athletes to take to their doctor. The doctor must sign that the student is healthy enough to participate in athletics. This form will be valid for the entire school year.
2. Students must attend all practices and team events if possible. All absences, other than illness, that are not excused with the coach before the absence may result in reduction of playing time or suspension.
3. Students must be present in school in order to participate in an athletic contest that day. Also, students who compile excessive absences from class may not be allowed to participate in athletics.
4. Students-athletes at FBA are expected to give their best effort in all things. They are not to be content with their abilities or become frustrated with their lack of mastery in a sport or task.
5. Student-athletes will exhibit good sportsmanship at all times. They will be humble in victory, gracious in defeat, and Christ-like at all times. FBA student-athletes will make sure their actions, words, and attitudes reflect the love of Christ at all times.
6. Coaches have the authority to discipline student-athletes as they see fit within the guidelines of First Baptist Academy.
7. Student-athletes who are placed on academic probation will not be eligible to participate in athletics until the next progress report demonstrates the student has sufficiently improved their performance in the classroom.
8. Students must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by the governing body of each sport.
9. Home school students that are allowed to compete in athletics at FBA are required to meet the same eligibility requirements that apply to FBA students.

### **Facilities**

1. Coaches and student-athletes should treat the facilities at FBA and those of other schools with respect. They are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and leave the facility in better condition than they found it.
2. The facilities at FBA must be reserved through the Athletic Director as soon as possible when creating their game and practice schedule.

# FBA



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