



St. John Bosco
Catholic School

Athletic Handbook

2025-2026

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St. John Bosco Sports Philosophy

The interscholastic athletic program of the Phoenix Diocese Catholic Schools is an integral part of the education program. It must, therefore, be in harmony with the educational objectives. Any interscholastic athletic activity should teach athletes:

- To be respectful, responsible, and contributing team members
- To be committed to reinforce Christian values while in the classroom and on the field/court
- To exercise competition in order to contribute to the development of an athlete's mental, emotional, and physical well-being
- Selfless effort in working with others to reach a common goal
- Appreciation of others' efforts, whether they be teammates, opponents, officials, or coaches
- To keep activities and games in proper perspective in order to learn, achieve, and benefit oneself individually as well as through team sportsmanship

Athletics should be a significant, valuable community activity, fostering loyalty, school spirit, student participation, and healthy competition. Goals for the athletic program should be meaningful to ALL students at St. John Bosco.

Emphasis should be placed upon the development of game fundamentals. The principal, faculty, coaches, and parents should encourage players to give their best, to improve their skills, and HAVE FUN when participating in competitive games.

Students choosing to represent St. John Bosco Catholic School on an athletic team must realize that the school team responsibility comes first; league and club teams come second.

Sports Offered

Boys' Athletics and Girls' Athletics

Flag Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Baseball, and Basketball. The following are non-CYAA athletic/activity events depending on team availability: Soccer (tournament) and Cross Country (co-ed)

Grade Level Philosophy

5th Grade Philosophy

The program is available to ALL students in the 5th grade.

At the 5th grade level, the focus is on learning the athletic skill and game rules, fundamentals of team play, emotional growth, and healthy competition. Participation is a key component for our 5th graders.

When there are large numbers of students participating in a sport, there may be multiple teams. At the 5th grade level, teams will be divided equally and by ability/skill level.

There is not a season-end CYAA tournament. All 5th grade teams are eligible for invitational tournaments with verification from the athletic director and administration.

Fifth-grade teams must be composed of at least two additional players above the required number of participants on the playing field/court. For example, baseball and softball will need a minimum of 11 participants, basketball 7 participants, flag football 10, and volleyball 8 players minimum.

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Philosophy

This program is available to ALL students in the upper middle-school grades.

Sixth- to eighth-grade teams must be composed of at least two additional players above the required number of participants on the playing field/court. For example, baseball and softball will need a minimum of 11 participants, basketball 7 participants, flag football 10, and volleyball 8 players minimum.

At the middle school level there will be an increased emphasis placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, elements and strategies of team play in addition to emotional development, game knowledge, and rules.

Team selection in the middle school will be based on the number of participants, skill level of participants, and possibly a combination of grade levels will be combined in order to have the minimum requirements as specified by the CYAA standards. St. John Bosco will adhere to the requirement of CYAA regulations that all students who want to participate may do so.

Ultimately, the number of teams and size of the squads in a sport will be determined by the availability of:

- 1) Qualified and certified coach
- 2) Suitable facilities
- 3) A safe environment.

There is not an end-of-season tournament for 6th graders. All 6th grade teams are

eligible for invitational tournaments with verification from athletic directors and or the administration.

Students participating in CYAA sports are obligated to review and understand all the rules governing the sport and the expectations given to all players.

Absences

On a school day, if any athlete misses school because of illness or an injury, he/she will not be allowed to attend practice or a game for that day. A student must be in class at least four hours to be considered in attendance for one full day.

The coach must approve absences for any other reason in order to be deemed an excused absence for the practice or game. Unexcused absences from a game or practice will result in a one game suspension. An athlete suspended from the team due to excessive tardiness or absences may be removed from the team.

Accident / Injury

It is important that all coaches know how to care for their athletes in case of injury or accident. Coaches must have the basic knowledge of First Aid and CPR skills. It is also important that the coach knows the procedure to follow to report an accident or injury.

The coach should do the following:

- Call 911, if necessary

- Check the scene for safety

- Give comfort to the athlete

- Care for the athlete by administering First Aid

- Contact the parent(s)

- Contact the athletic director by phone on his direct school line: 480.219.4848 x3110

- Fill out necessary accident/injury reports and turn in to the report to the Athletic

 - Dept. within 24 hours

- If emergency vehicles are involved, appoint an assistant coach to take team responsibility and assist the injured athlete to emergency care.

Eligibility

Eligibility to play during any sports season is determined by administration. The administration has the right to revoke a player's eligibility if there is a concern about a student's academics or behavior, or if there is failure to obtain the necessary physical exam, submit proper permission forms or pay any required fees.

In order to be eligible to participate in after-school activities, students must maintain a satisfactory academic record and satisfactory behavior. Any student receiving a "D" or "F" as recorded in RenWeb will be deemed ineligible to participate. Eligibility will be reviewed each Monday after Progress Reports are issued in the Trimester.

Eligibility rules also apply to all student activities such as clubs, dances, etc. Off-campus behavior may also affect eligibility. (Example: being a part of derogatory use on social media, texting, emails, etc.)

Emergency Numbers

In case of an emergency, the following telephone numbers should be used.

Athletic Director: Brett Caradonna 480-219-4848 ext. 3110

Principal: Jamie Bescak 480-219-4848 ext. 5109

St. John Bosco Office: 480-219-4848 (before 3:30pm)

Emergency Number HELP: 911

Fees

Due to league fees, tournament fees, cost of officials, upkeep of sports facilities, etc., participants will be assessed a fee of \$125.00 per sport. This fee must be paid before the start of the season or arrangements must be made with the Athletic Director. This fee is non-refundable to those who wish to drop out of the program, are suspended or ineligible due to grades or conduct.

Forms

For all forms required by St. John Bosco and the CYAA please go to the Phoenix Diocese website at: https://sjb.formstack.com/forms/sports_participation_forms

Practice/Game Uniforms

Students participating in St. John Bosco athletics will be required to wear proper practice uniforms (depending on the season) for all practices.

Uniforms must be purchased in advance prior to the season through the Formstack Registration. When purchased, the athletic director will pass out the uniform to the student prior to the start of the season. If shorts are not purchased from the approved school uniform store (Anton Uniform), regulation physical education shorts (navy blue) must be worn by all players. The Athletic Director and Principal must approve any changes to the uniform policy. If a student does not have the proper uniform and/or equipment (e.g., volleyball knee pads) for a game, they will not be permitted to play in the game.

Marianne's Creations provides alternative options for baseball and softball ONLY. Parents will have the option to order a uniform with jersey number through Formstack Registration. ALL payments will be handled by Marianne's Creations. Please contact Marianne Biegler at 602-791-3929 or email mbiegler@cox.net for further information.

Pre-season requirements

Before an athlete may begin participating and competing for a particular activity, the following criteria must be met. These requirements should be submitted through online registration prior to each season. A completed sports physical form should be turned in

prior to the first sport that your child will be participating in and must be signed by a physician. Only one signed physical form is needed for the school year.

1. Physical form completed and signed by a physician (hard copy to the Athletic Director)
2. Driver Information and Transportation forms (notarized)
3. Signed student-athlete page, and a signed parent handbook page.
4. \$100 fee per sport must accompany the paperwork. (NOTE: Fees are waived for children of volunteer coaches.)

Supervision

1. Athletes must report to the coach or designated adult when they arrive at practice or game site. Coaches will pick up students from their homeroom at 3:30pm for practices, and as early as 3pm for games.
2. **Athletes will not leave a site without permission.**
3. **Parents must be on time to pick up athletes. Coaches must supervise players until all have been picked up from a practice or a game.** If parents are more than ten minutes late, the athlete may be sent to aftercare at the parent's expense. Parents consistently late picking up their child from practices or games may result in your child being dismissed from the team. All parents must be registered for aftercare. Please remember that our coaches are volunteers.

Tardy Policy

An athlete is tardy when he/she arrives at a practice or a game after the designated starting time as determined by the coach.

Team Pictures

Coaches are responsible for scheduling and having a team photo taken to be included in the yearbook. Coaches should email the team photo to the Athletic Director. It is highly recommended that a photo be taken after every game to ensure there is at least one quality photo that may be used for the yearbook.

Team Schedule

St. John Bosco teams are limited on the amount of time they may have for practices and games. Practices or games, except CYAA and or other tournaments, are Mondays through Thursdays. All non CYAA tournaments must be approved by the Athletic Director and Principal.

Transportation

Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from games and practices. If a parent is not able to transport their child they must make arrangements with another parent. In order for a child to be allowed to ride with anyone else other than that child's parent, St. John Bosco must have a Transportation Consent Form on file and it must be notarized. SJB cannot arrange carpools. Coaches are not permitted to transport team players unless the athlete is their child or part of their carpool. Accidents should be reported to the school administration immediately and parents should be notified even if athletes are not injured.

Suspension and/or Removal from the Team

Players must follow school and CYAA guidelines while participating for St. John Bosco School. An athlete who violates the rules in this handbook may be removed from the field, suspended, or removed from the team.

Removal From a Practice or Game

Failure to abide by codes of conduct as outlined in the parent or student contract is grounds for dismissal from a contest. Administration, Athletic Director, or Referee all have the responsibility to ask another to leave an event if their behavior is outside the code of conduct.

Unable to maintain a passing grade of “C” or better in every class

Suspension From Team

Receiving any notices of concern that the administration determines is substantial enough to warrant disciplinary action.

Unexcused tardies or absences from practice/games.

Misconduct during practice/games.

Violation of the Athletes Code of Conduct

Inappropriate behavior toward a coach, teammate, official, or the opposing team.

Continuously unable to maintain a passing grade of “C” or better in every class.

Removal from Team

Any action the administration determines is substantial enough to warrant this disciplinary action.

Athlete is suspended from the team three times.

Excessive unexcused tardiness or absences from practice/games.

FIGHTING – during school, practice and/or games.

Excessive inappropriate behavior towards coaches, teammates, officials, and/or the opposing team.

Failure to maintain grades higher than C and/or misbehavior in any class.

Not following the code of conduct may result in a minimum of a one game suspension to a maximum of being excluded from athletic participation for one calendar year.

Furthermore, if team members do not exhibit the characteristics or values of St. John Bosco Catholic School, the team may be disbanded for the remainder of the school year or for one calendar year, depending on when the violation occurs.



Athletic/Parent Code of Conduct

Student-Athlete

St. John Bosco Catholic School student athletes are expected to represent themselves, their team, and the school in an exemplary manner at all times. Athletic participation is considered a privilege, not a right. Each student athlete is to be a positive influence on his/her fellow students at all times during the school day and at athletic or school-sponsored events, both at home and away.

All participants in St. John Bosco School athletics agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- I will be a worthy representative of my faith, St. John Bosco School, my coaches, and my team.
- I will treat opponents with respect and shake hands after each contest.
- I will respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest.
- I will accept seriously the responsibility of representing St. John Bosco Catholic School by displaying positive behavior at all times.
- I will refrain from using foul, obscene, or threatening language or gestures. I will be a responsible team player.
- I will act in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values at all times. I will exhibit the highest standards of sportsmanship.
- I will attend every practice and game unless excused by the coach.
- I will support my teammates and interact with them in a positive manner, always showing mutual respect, not participating in gossip, hazing, harassing, making derogatory remarks or any other behaviors that may bring dishonor to my team, St. John Bosco Catholic School, or myself.
- I will help earn the respect of my teammates and student body, which is the core of developing effective school spirit and student involvement. Being a highly recognizable representative of St. John Bosco School, I am in a position of great influence; therefore, high standards of conduct are expected of me. I will demonstrate positive personal behavior and act honorably to enhance squad cohesiveness.
- I will place the good of the team over my own personal achievement or aggrandizement.
- I will properly care and maintain all equipment and uniforms provided and I will promptly return these items in good condition at the end of the season.

- I will maintain the academic requirements to remain eligible to participate in the athletic program.
- I will maintain a passing grade of Cs or better in every class.
- I am aware that, if placed on an academic contract, I must abide by the conditions set forth in my contract or I will become immediately ineligible.

Parent and Spectators

As a parent or spectator I will maintain acceptable standards of behavior at all times. I will:

- Remember that the players are young adults and are playing for their enjoyment, NOT mine.
- Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- Be a role model by positively supporting teams and by not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches, and/or officials.
- I will not coach from the stands or approach coaches or officials before or during the contest.
- Make NO derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches and parents of the opposite team, officials, or league administrators.
- Follow the chain of command to resolve an issue, speaking first to the coach then to the Athletic Director if a resolution cannot be reached.

Consequences to acting in a manner contrary to either the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct or the Parent-Spectator Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action for the student, parent, or both. (See Suspension and Removal from a Team in the Athletic Handbook)

Student-Athlete Name (Print)

Student-Athlete Signature

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date

St. John Bosco Catholic School

Especially for Coaches

This manual is designed to assist coaches in their everyday tasks to organize and promote St. John Bosco Athletics. Additional handouts may be distributed throughout the year as new information is published by the CYAA.

Our coaches will be knowledgeable of the CYAA rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines in order to build solid relationships with their athletes. The coach's success will enable student-athletes to reach their full potential through positive encouragement in a Christian atmosphere.

Saint John Bosco Mission Statement



With Christ Jesus as our Guide, we are called to become one community that provides a safe and nurturing environment dedicated to developing the whole child. We promote critical thinking, self-discipline, and excellence in Catholic education, while empowering all community members to be lifelong learners who serve God and God's creation.

Coaches Checklist

This checklist will help you start your team off to a great season. All these items need to be checked off before your first game.

1. Complete all coaches requirements. These include safe environment training, CPR training, concussion training (video), and signed coaches conduct form.

2. Read and follow the CYAA Handbook and rules.
3. Coaches are not required to enter their team into the CYAA tournament. It is the coaches' responsibility to notify the Athletic Director in advance if the team chooses to opt out of playing in the postseason tournament. Forfeiting a CYAA tournament game results in a fine from the league, and the fine will be evenly distributed through the team parents' FACTS accounts.
4. Prepare for Parent/Team meeting:
 - Begin with prayer, introduce athletes/parents/yourself
 - Go over team rules, code of conduct for both athletes and parents, and goals.
 - Hand out practice and game schedule (if available)
 - Review St. John Bosco general policies.
5. Recruit at least one assistant coach before first practice.
6. Assign a team parent to be responsible for phone calls, arranging carpools, assigning snacks, and setting up and picking up after athletic games and practices. This is a "team" effort where everyone is involved.
7. Plan your practice according to the appropriate age level and skill level. If you need guidance, please do not hesitate to ask the Athletic Director.
8. Coaches or designated adults must be present before team members arrive for practices or games. (If you are running late, contact the Athletic Director, or the school office.
9. Before the first practice, review the athlete's code of conduct. Be firm about expectations of upholding the code of conduct and academic requirements.
10. At the beginning of every practice and game, coaches and players should pray and recite the SJB mission statement.
11. HAVE FUN!!



Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaches are representing St. John Bosco Catholic School. As such, they must follow a code of conduct at all times. The following is the code of conduct.

1. I hereby pledge to live up to my responsibilities as a coach at St. John Bosco Catholic School.
2. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of myself.
3. I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotion and physical development for the same age group.
4. I will play each player up to or beyond the standards set forth by the CYAA.
5. I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
6. I promise to review and practice the necessary first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
7. I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to my players.
8. I will use coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills I teach.
9. I will ensure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of the sport that I am coaching.
10. I will be sensitive to the score and the game conditions so as to not embarrass or belittle an opponent.
11. I will respect the judgment of the officials and their interpretation of the rules.
12. I will put sportsmanship over winning.
13. I will always model Christian values, ethical behavior, and sportsmanship.
14. I will remember that I am a youth coach at a Catholic School, and the game is for the athletes and NOT THE ADULTS.

Signature of Coach

Date

Signature of Athletic Director

Date