

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School  
Athletic Handbook  
2016-2017

*“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God.” I Corinthians 10:31*

Our main objective at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School is to nurture each child’s faith and to equip children to serve their Lord. Athletics and competing are part of our school, but our main focus is not about winning. Our main focus will be serving and praising God in all practices and games.

What is expected of the student:

- display a Christ-like attitude toward coaches, teammates, opponents, fans and referees
- work hard in every practice and game to the best of his God-given ability
- be willing to improve skills and knowledge of the game
- have fun, yet take practices and games seriously
- attend both games and practices regularly
- respect and follow all rules and decisions of the coach

What is expected of the parent:

- encourage children to compete with a Christ-like attitude
- encourage and support all competitors, coaches, and referees
- allow referees to officiate games without disturbance
- allow coaches to coach games without disturbance
- contact the coach or athletic director if a problem arises
- transport children to games on time
- pick up children from practices in a timely manner

What is expected of the coach:

- model a Christ-like attitude in all activities
- encourage all students to show a Christ-like attitude when competing
- conduct practices which allow all children to compete and have fun
- allow referees to officiate without disturbance
- communicate with parents if a problem occurs

#### COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

The Christian Education Committee will annually review requests from other area schools to participate with St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School for a specific sport season. The committee will also oversee St. Peter’s request to participate with a neighboring school when participation numbers deem that necessary.

#### PLAYING TIME

Playing time in all activities will be determined by the coach. The coach will look at age, skill, attitude, conduct, practice habits, and attendance (both games and practices).

It is understandable that students might be involved in other after-school activities which might cause a conflict in schedules. Keep in mind, this may affect the student’s playing time in games.

If a student is absent from school for the last half of the day of a game or practice, he or she may not participate in that day's activity. Some exceptions could be made by the coach or athletic director.

## PRACTICES

A schedule of practice dates and times will be given to each participating athlete. This schedule will also be available online at the school's website. Please inform the coach when your child is unable to attend practice, must leave early, or will arrive late to a practice. Also, take careful note of practice times, as these may vary. Please be prompt in picking up athletes.

Siblings of athletes are not allowed to attend practices.

## PROBLEMS OR CONCERNS

If problems or concerns arise, please follow the guidelines below:

1. Contact the coach and discuss the matter.
2. If the matter has not been resolved, contact the athletic director.
3. If the matter has still not been resolved completely, contact the principal.

Please carry out all communications in the privacy of the parties involved. On the court or field, immediately after a game, is generally not a good time to confront a coach.

## SCHEDULES

Both game and practice schedules will be handed out with registration information at the start of each season. The athletic director is responsible for these schedules, as well as for informing parents, players, and coaches of any schedule changes in a timely manner.

## SPORTS OFFERED

Soccer will generally begin during the first week of school and end in the middle of October. Practices are generally Tuesday and Thursday. Home games are held at Gault Field. Soccer is available to all boys and girls in grades 3 – 8.

Basketball runs from the middle of November to the end of February. All practices and home games are held at the St. Peter Community Center. All boys and girls in grades 4 – 8 are eligible to participate. Teams are determined during the first week of practice.

Track is part of the 5 – 8 physical education program. Participation in interscholastic track meets is required. These track meets are held in May at host schools.

Cheerleading will only be offered if a parent is willing to coach. Cheerleading is available to all boys and girls in grades 4 – 8. The cheerleading coach will be under the supervision of the athletic director.

Students may participate in SPHS sports which are NOT offered by SPELS as after-school, extra-curricular programs. Parents may appeal this ruling by requesting, in writing, a variance from the Christian Education Committee prior to the start of the season in question.

## SPORTS FEES

Fees are determined each year for each individual sport. The fees cover costs associated with equipment, field/gym rental, referees, conference dues, and any other costs during the athletic season.

## TRANSPORTATION

Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from soccer and basketball games. A parent not transporting his or her own child must send a permission slip indicating who is responsible for transporting the child. Please note the time your child is required to be at the event. Absences and tardiness could affect playing time.

Students will walk to practices with the coach or be transported by school-authorized vehicles. Parents will be responsible for picking up students on time at the conclusion of practices.