

IMPORTANT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION GUIDELINES AS TAKEN FROM THE SPAA HANDBOOK

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- Player eligibility is determined by the rules governed by that particular sport. Strict compliance for St. Patricia's School attendance and active participation in the Religious Education program will be monitored and enforced. The SPAA will consider extenuating circumstances for participation, provided they are complying with that particular sports league changes, rules and prerequisites.
- A doctor's permission may be required for participation.
- Payment of a registration fee, concession fee, and uniform fee is required

Grades 4 and 5

- Coaches are required to play every player in every game as equally as possible. There is no set amount of playing time for 4th and 5th grade. All players should get a fair amount of playing time for the team size and grade level. No player should get a considerable amount of game time over another child.

Grade 6

- Basketball - Coaches are required to play every player in every game for at least 6 minutes.
- Girls Volleyball – This grade starts competitive play. Although there are no minimum playing time requirements, it is suggested that players get equal playing time. Playing time will be based on regular practice attendance, desire to learn, attention paid and attitude during practices and games, game conditions, and any other factors that the coach(s) feel appropriate.

Grades 7 and 8

- Since these grades are competitive, there are no minimum playing time requirements. It is suggested that all players get some playing time in every game during the regular season. Playing time will be based on regular practice attendance, desire to learn, attention paid and attitude during practices and games, game conditions, and any other factors that the coach(s) feel appropriate.
- For all grades, with the exception of disciplinary cases, every player who regularly attends practice and exhibits a desire to learn, merits playing time. Although a playing time requirement does not exist for playoff games for all grades, once again it is strongly suggested that all players get some playing time. The Athletic Director/Basketball Director can always answer questions on what is deemed fair amount of play.

PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITY

1. Attend all practices and games unless excused by the coach. Players/parents should contact and notify the coach in advance as soon as possible whenever a player cannot attend a practice or game. Unexcused absences will affect playing time.
2. Assume responsibility for their uniform and equipment issued to the team.
3. Students who choose to participate in a sport are representing St. Patricia School and the parish at all times. They must act in a manner that reflects favorably upon themselves and the parish at all times. This expectation, is not just limited to the sports field or the court, but should be evident at school, in the community, at other schools as well as before, during and after all games.
4. Students will only wear the uniform that has been chosen by the Athletic Board. No makeup or jewelry will be allowed.
5. Follow principles and practices of good sportsmanship and respect at all times – toward officials, teammates, coaches, parents, members of opposing teams, and all spectators. This includes the scorekeepers hired by St. Patricia.
6. Players should maintain themselves in good physical condition. Any player found using alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs, will be dismissed from the team and the program.
7. Respect the facilities of St. Patricia, other practice sites and game sites. Any player found committing acts of vandalism may be dismissed from the team and that program and will be responsible for restitution.
8. Students are expected to maintain an average grade while playing sports and never neglect schoolwork during the season.
9. Must read and sign the student athlete agreement before the first game in order to participate.
10. Players will follow team/league rules set forth.
11. All participants are required to properly care for all SPAA/school issued equipment. In the event equipment is lost/damaged, that particular player may be asked to reimburse the current replacement value of that item.

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Read the handbook and review it with their child. Ensure the agreement is signed and returned. No student can participate in a game until this agreement is returned to the coach.
2. Provide transportation for the children to and from all practices and games.
3. Ensure that the coach is present at the practice facility and has gained access to the building. Do not just drop off your child. Practice schedules change, locked doors and conflicts do occur.

4. Drop off players at practices and games at times designated by coaches and pick up players promptly after practices and games. Do not send your child to a practice any earlier than 10 minutes prior to start time.
5. Players must be present by the start of practice. Repeated tardiness will result in disciplinary action.
6. Parents may not send siblings to practice.
7. Adhere to principles of good sportsmanship. As a representative of St. Patricia Parish, parents are expected to conduct themselves in a Christian manner at games and be respectful of all players, coaches and other parents, spectators and game officials.
8. Parents are encouraged to cheer their team on, but should make no attempt to instruct or direct the team or an athlete. They should not criticize the playing efforts of the team or any child on it.
9. The State Legislature passed a law in 2000 that allows referees to charge coaches and spectators for verbal assault. This is another reminder that situations should never get out of control.
10. Parents can be a model for putting losses into perspective and moving on. Criticizing or berating the coach is inappropriate behavior.
11. Work a concession assigned to them or find a replacement. Failure to do so will result in the immediate forfeit of the concession fee.
12. Parents must attend the coach's pre-season meeting.
13. Parents must keep the uniform clean and in good condition.
14. Parents will not conduct any sale, or host any profit-making event without written permission of the Athletic Board.
15. Parents will not send any team pictures or team info to the parish bulletin or newspapers. That is the duty of the Athletic Director. If you would like something placed, contact your Athletic Director.
16. Parents will not address a problem with the coach before, during or immediately after a game. Please refer to "Working Out Concerns".
17. Parents may be banned from attending games if they do not follow these rules.
18. Parents may also be expected to contribute their time and service in support of the Athletic Program. Our program is dependent upon everyone's help and support to maintain a high level of quality and success.

WORKING OUT CONCERNS

If parents or participants have any concerns with any respect of the athletic program, they should first try to work them out by discussing the matter with the coach(es) involved. If the problem cannot be resolved in this manner, the Athletic Director should be contacted. If there is still no resolution to the problem, the matter may be brought before the Athletic Board. The Athletic Association President should be contacted to put the matter on the agenda for the next board meeting.

When a parent has a concern or problem they would like to discuss with the coach, please never approach a coach before, during or immediately following a game. It is best to call the coach to discuss the matter or arrange to meet before or after a practice. If a situation occurs, please practice the 24-hour cool-down period before contacting the coach.

You can refer to the entire St. Patricia Athletic Association handbook on our website at www.stpatriciasports.com

I have read and understand the guidelines as stated above and that for more specific information, I can refer to the St. Patricia Athletic Association Handbook at www.stpatriciasports.com.

Player Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO YOUR COACH AT THE FIRST PRACTICE. PLAYERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICES OR PLAY IN ANY GAMES UNTIL SIGNED FORM IS RETURNED.