

ST.  
ATHANASIUS



STUDENT & PARENT  
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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## **Philosophy**

The St. Athanasius community supports an athletics program that provides the student athlete many opportunities to develop his/her individual skills while contributing to a team. Our mission is to provide and establish a wholesome program that promotes sportsmanship and fair play with an emphasis on teaching character, athletic and social skills, and a healthy attitude.

### **Organizational Structure**

The St. Athanasius Booster Club Executive Office consists of the President, Vice-President, ART Treasurer, APT Treasurer, Work Commitment Coordinator, Secretary and the Pastor. The Booster Club also consists of Sports Coordinators, Ball Field and Gym managers, Athletic Directors, and other members the President deems necessary.

### **Booster Club Executive Officers**

President  
Vice President  
ART Treasurer  
APT Treasurer  
Secretary  
Work Commitment  
Pastor (or designated representative)

### **Athletic Director**

The Athletic Director (AD) is responsible for seeing the day to day operations of the athletic program. The A.D. assures that the sports programs follow the regulations and standards set forth by the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA) and the St. Athanasius Booster Club. The Athletic Director is appointed by the President, and is responsible for the recruitment and training of all Sports Coordinators.

### **Sports Coordinators**

A sports coordinator is assigned to each sport. His/Her duties consists of the recruitment and assigning of coaches to be presented before the Athletic Director, supervision of try-outs and team selection, practice schedules and uniform distribution and collection. They are also responsible to ensure that all keys, are returned to the Parish Hall and/or Field Manager. The Athletic Director and coaches evaluate each coordinator, each year.

### **Sports Teams**

St. Athanasius sports program offers thirteen (13) sports sanctioned by the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA)(\*) for Grades 3-8. We also offer sports programs not sanctioned by the CSAA. The Booster Club runs a Little Stingers (LS) Sports program designed for those in grades Pre K-2<sup>nd</sup>.

Archery *	Winter into Spring
Baseball *	Late Spring
Basketball *(LS)	Fall
Cheerleading (LS)	Summer
Cross Country *	Summer
Dance	Summer
Field Hockey *	Late Spring
Football *(LS)	Summer
Golf *	Spring
Soccer *	Spring
Softball *	Spring
Swimming *	Winter
Tennis *	Late Spring
Track & Field *	Spring
Volleyball (G)(B) *(LS(G))	Summer (G&LS) Winter(B)

**Work Commitment**

Registration fees, concessions, and gate fees fund St. Athanasius Booster Club. All the money raised through these events go right back into the sports programs. In order to keep registration fees as low as possible, and keep our facilities in good condition, parents are expected to assist. The Booster Club has required that one parent work four (4) hours per child per sport. It is the responsibility of the parent to insure they work their commitment.

**Sports Registration**

Registering for all sports is to be completed online at: <https://www.loucsaa.gameday/athanasius.com>. Registration starts at least four (4) weeks before the start of the sports season. Once registration has closed, players are only allowed on a team, as space allows. The reason for this rule is as follows: Sometimes the CSAA requires us to report the number of teams before we have tryouts. This can result in us reporting too few teams to the CSAA. If because of late registration we need to change our counts to the CSAA, we are sometimes assessed a financial penalty from the CSAA. Second, if we have too many players on a team, it limits the amount of playing time for each individual.

**Registration Dates (subject to change)**

Sport	Open	Close	First Practice
Archery	7/16	8/15	10/1

Baseball	2/1	2/28	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of March
Basketball	9/16	10/15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of October
Basketball (LS)	9/16	11/30	12/1
Cheerleading	5/16	7/14	August 1
Cheer (sideline)	5/16	7/14	August 1
Cross Country	5/16	7/14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of July
Field Hockey	3/16	4/15	2 <sup>ND</sup> Sunday of March
Football	5/16	7/14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of July
Flag Football	5/16	8/14	August 15
Golf	1/16	2/15	March 1
Soccer	1/16	2/15	March 1
Soccer (LS)	1/16	2/15	March 1
Softball	1/16	2/15	March 1
Swimming	1/16	1/31	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of February
Track	1/16	2/15	March 1
Volleyball (G)	5/16	7/14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of July
Volleyball (B)	1/1	1/24	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of February

### **Payment**

Online payment is required during registration.

If your child decides not to play, a credit to your account, minus \$5 processing fee, will be issued up until the first day of tryouts. No credits or refunds, will be issued after the first day of tryouts.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

St. Athanasius is a member of the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA). As a member, we follow all the policies and guidelines set forth by the CSAA, and/or the sanctioning club authority. The CSAA Handbook is located under the website at: [loucsaa.net](http://loucsaa.net)

All students of St. Athanasius are eligible to participate in the sports program as long as they meet the age, grade, and sacrament requirements of the CSAA. Student athletes that do not attend school at St. Athanasius, may participate as long as they are members in good standing of the parish of St. Athanasius and they attend religious education classes. They must also adhere to the age, grade, and sacrament requirements set forth from the CSAA.

### **Academic Eligibility**

At St. Athanasius, we feel the student always comes before the athlete. In an effort to prepare our students for participation in sports beyond middle school, the Booster Club in consultation with our principal, and director of the CSAA, we are instituting a “Grades for Play” program.

This program mirrors the requirements put forth by the KHSAA on middle school athletes that participate in sports at the middle or high school level.

ANY student athlete in the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade playing a sport at St. Athanasius, must maintain a “C” average in core classes, in order to practice or play. These classes include: English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Religion. The St. Athanasius school office will pull grades for student athletes each week. For PREP students, or other student athletes from other parishes participating on a St. Athanasius team, a printout of grades will be required before the first practice of each week in order to maintain eligibility.

If the student athlete’s average in any of the core classes drops below a “C” average, a “3 strike rule will apply:

1. The student athlete can practice but cannot play in that week’s game until the grade average is raised to at least a “C”
2. If the grade average is not brought up to a “C” by the following week, the student athlete will not be permitted to participate in that week’s activities.
3. If the student athlete does not bring their grade to at least a “C” after third week, the student athlete will be dismissed from the team. The Booster Club will not reimburse that sport fee.

If a Student Athlete is dismissed from a team, he/she will not be permitted to register for the next sport, until all core classes have at least a “C” average.

A liaison from the Booster Club will contact parents directly in the event any of the above measures must be addressed. We appreciate your cooperation and support in this program.

### **School Attendance**

If a student is absent from school for any reason, they are NOT permitted to play or practice that day. Any student suspended from school, will not be permitted to practice or play, until the suspension has been lifted.

### **Expectations of Coaches**

St. Athanasius Coaches are expected to:

- Place the well-being of their student-athletes ahead of the desire to win.
- Watch the CSAA Coaches Video
- Attend the Archdiocese S.A.F.E training class
- Exemplify high standards
- Use appropriate language when communicating with student-athletes.

- Enforce and teach the rules and regulations of the game and those of the CSAA and Booster Club
- Respect the integrity and judgement of the game officials.
- Utilize appropriate coaching techniques during instruction.

### **Expectations of the Student Athlete**

- Follow the rules and regulations of the game
- Follow the rules of the CSAA, Booster Club and their coach.
- Follow the rules of the school.
- Attend school and maintain minimum grade eligibility
- Must respect all team mates and coaching staff
- Never uses foul language
- Always puts their teammates ahead of themselves.

### **Expectations of the Parents**

- Do not force your child to participate in sports
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of your child or others.
- Learn the rules of the game, CSAA, and the Booster club
- Be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship.
- Do not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with officials, coaches, players, parents, or game management.
- Attending as many of your child's games as possible.
- Do not speak poorly of your child's coaches. Respect for all is key to teaching your child about authority.

### **Grievances**

While we try to make every student athletes sports experience a good one, there will be times when this is not always possible. If you have concerns during the season, we ask you follow the protocols set forth by the St. Athanasius Booster Club

1. If possible, wait 24 hours before voicing your concerns to the head coach.
2. If you feel this has not helped you reach a satisfactory conclusion, ask to speak the Sports Coordinator.
3. If a concern remains, ask to speak to the Athletic Director.
4. If the Athletic Director is unable to help, you may take your concerns to the St. Athanasius Athletic Review Board.
5. If all else fails, a meeting with the Pastor of St. Athanasius can be conducted.

### **Tryouts**

Every student that registers before the cutoff date is guaranteed a spot on a team. Choosing members of each team is the responsibility of the Sports Coordinator. The Sports Coordinator may enlist the assistance from other individuals that do not have a child or interest in that sports team.

### **Practice**

Every student athlete is required to be present at every practice. We understand that there are times when a student is unable to show up, but we encourage they make every effort to attend. The amount of time allowed to practice, falls under the rules and regulations of the CSAA. Practice on a Holy Day of Obligation is not permitted.

### **Weather policy**

If school is closed, during the school week, (Monday-Friday), all practices and games will be cancelled for that day. The CSAA will make a decision to cancel any games played on the weekend.

### **Equipment and facilities**

Each head coach is responsible for the care and control of all equipment used for his/her team. The head coach will make sure all equipment and uniforms, are returned to the sports coordinator after their season has ended. This includes and not limited to keys, balls, and uniforms.

Players are responsible for insuring that their uniforms are clean and free of damage. Players are responsible to make sure their entire uniform is returned to the head coach at the end of the season.

All players and coaching staff are required to follow the rules and regulations of the Parish Hall, fields and facilities of St. Athanasius.