

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES

ECS Athletic Mission

The Athletic Mission of ECS is to impact the student athlete, family, and community through a Christ centered, biblically directed athletic program which bears the mark of integrity, pursues competitive excellence, and inspires leadership and spiritual growth.

ECS Sportsmanship Code

1. We will seek to honor Christ in our conduct.
2. We will show respect to the visiting team and their fans.
3. We will respect the judgments of the officials.
4. We will support and encourage our athletes during the game.
5. We will support the decision-making of our coaches.

We the coaches believe that participation in the athletic program at Evangelical Christian School is a privilege obtained by a student and not a right given to a student. Therefore guidelines for being involved may go above and beyond the school's policy.

Attendance - A student is expected to attend all classes on his/her schedule on the day of a contest and the next school day following the contest. Habitual absence before and after a contest may result in suspension from the team. To be eligible to participate in the contest of the day, the athlete must be present at least ½ of the day. Students must check in before 11:00 AM or check out after 11:00 AM, unless the student has been excused from school attendance for such reasons as doctor's appointment, field trip, college visitation, funerals, etc.

Signing In or Signing Out - Any student who signs in or signs out of school during the day must notify their respective coach immediately.

No Practice/No Play - If an athlete misses practice having notified the coach ahead of time the coach may consider the absence to be excused. The athlete will make up what he/she missed before being able to participate in the next contest. If the practice missed is not excused or the coach has not been notified, the athlete will make up what he/she missed, plus extra punishment for not being accountable. If an athlete is sick or injured and is able to attend practice, he/she should attend, watch and learn to prevent falling behind. All participants are subject both to TSSAA and ECS rules and regulations.

Team Tryouts - Making the team is based on ability, attitude, and aggressiveness. Cuts from the team are at the discretion of the coaching staff. Players may be removed from the team by the coach for disciplinary reasons. If a player quits the team, it is his/her responsibility to notify the coaches that they are doing so. Any athlete quitting a team may not participate or play for another team until the present team's season is complete.

Violation of Alcohol/Drug Policy - Any chemical substance abuse or usage of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or steroids may result in immediate dismissal from the team. This policy is also effective during the summer months when a player is under the auspices of a coach's authority.

Parental Concerns and Issues - Concerns of parents or their athletes should be directed to the head coach of the participating sport. **Parents are not to approach a coach before, during, or after a game to discuss issues regarding athletes. This should be scheduled via email or phone call at a later date.** If a meeting with the head coach cannot be set or does not provide adequate resolution, the Athletic Director may be asked to meet with the coach and the athlete and/or parent(s). Appointments can be scheduled through the Assistant to the Athletic Director. Playing time during a game is an issue that is at the discretion of the coach. Parents should not contact the TSSAA regarding any issues with athletes. The TSSAA has no control over school / parent issues.

Removal Policy – Athletes will be given every chance to stay on the team. Expulsion from a team may come as a last resort and will be a joint decision by the head coach and athletic director.

Cut Policy - The head coach of each sport reserves the right to cut his/her team down to a workable number that is best for the development of the team.

Participation Policy – High School athletic teams are about playing your role on a team, not individual playing time.

Quitting Policy - The normal rule for athletes quitting a team is that they make themselves ineligible for any sport during that season which has already begun. An athlete, who goes out for a sport and does not make the team, would be eligible to try out for and participate in another sport during that season.

Summer Programs – All of our teams will have voluntary summer programs set up by the coaches. This is for the improvement in strength and conditioning of the athlete and should be encouraged by the parents. If at all possible vacations, mission trips, driver's education classes, etc. should be scheduled during TSSAA dead weeks.

Transportation Policy –Athletes who are transported by school personnel or designee shall return by the same means unless the coach releases the athlete to their parents by written notice.

PLEASE NOTE: Complete details regarding the ECS Athletic Policy can be found in the ECS Athletic Handbook on the Athletic page of the ECS website. Signing below acknowledges understanding of these policies.

Athlete Signature & Date _____

Parent Signature & Date _____

Coach Signature & Date _____

Athletic Director Signature & Date _____