



**Calvary Episcopal School**  
**Athletic Handbook**  
**2025-2026**

## **Athletics Philosophy**

A Christian education ministers not just to the academic needs of a child, but also to the spiritual, social, emotional, and physical needs. We believe to help meet these diverse needs, an interscholastic sports program is beneficial.

Through Calvary's athletic program, students have opportunities to grow in their personal faith, demonstrate a commitment to growth and excellence, and attitudes as a result of that faith.

Competition promotes goal setting and demands commitment. These attributes require persistence, grit, teamwork, and sacrifice. Competition requires respect for teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.

Through proper training, guidance, and healthy competition, students learn the value of sportsmanship, and self-discipline, as well as lifelong routines that provide for healthy mind, body, and spirit.

It is with this philosophy in mind that the following policies have been set.

## **Program Purpose**

- To help the athlete realize the value of others and the importance of working cooperatively with them.
- To encourage the athletes to recognize the need for self-discipline, dedication and perseverance as lifelong qualities.
- To instill self-worth and esteem within each athlete through the development of a proper understanding of their unique creation by a loving God.
- To teach and model athletics in its proper perspective in the development of the whole child.
- To provide a healthful, wholesome and enjoyable way for students to use their leisure time.
- To give athletes an opportunity to excel, to expect more of themselves.
- To grow through adversity and competition in a healthy environment.
- To develop leadership skills through teamwork.
- To promote school spirit.

## **The Program**

Opportunities for students to participate in school athletic activities are provided through the interscholastic program.

## **Games**

In order to strike a balance between academics, sports, spiritual growth, and family life, it is the policy of Calvary Episcopal School to schedule the number of games played per sport as follows:

- JV No more than 15 games per year per sport includes: Basketball, Volleyball, track, soccer.
- Varsity No more than 25 games per year per sport includes: Basketball, Volleyball, track, soccer.

The administrator and athletic director will have final say in determining the scheduling of games, practices, and tournaments to ensure that this limit is met.

These limits will be followed within reason. Participation in a tournament will be counted as two games.

JV Teams will not have games involving overnight stays; this includes regular-season games and/or tournament games.

## **Authority**

The Athletic Director, through the Head of School, is the primary authority for athletics at Calvary Episcopal School and therefore has the authority to select, assign and replace (with or without cause) any and all coaches.

Coaches will be an example in word and action. Coaching will be done by a faculty member or supervised by a faculty member in accordance with the overall principles and policies of the school. The administrator and athletic director will review the Athletic Handbook bi-annually to ensure that all procedures contained within meet the policies as set forth by the board of trustees.

## **Interscholastic Sports Programs**

### **Opportunities**

Opportunities are provided through our interscholastic program to those who have a desire to more fully develop and utilize their athletic ability and enjoy more competition and traveling. It also allows us to interact with other student-athletes from other schools, both public and private.

Due to the numbers of interested students, it may be necessary to divide the students at each level into more than one team. We will also pull 3rd & 4th graders up to pad

numbers in order to make a junior varsity team although our league states junior varsity is 5th-6th graders. All decisions regarding team placement will be made by the coaches after a period of a minimum of three observations. Teams are typically divided by experience or ability. If there are low numbers of interested students in a particular sport or a student excels, coaches may request that an individual or individuals from lower grades be moved up.

## **Sport Breakdown**

### **Basketball (boys and girls)**

**Junior Varsity:** Grades 3-6

**Varsity:** Grades 7-8

**Season:** Begins the first week of November and runs through the first week in February.

### **Cross Country**

**Season:** Begins the first week of school (or later) and concludes at the Faith Lutheran meet in November

### **Flag football**

**Junior Varsity:** Grades 5-6

**Varsity:** Grades 3-8

**Season:** Begins the first week of school and culminates around mid-October with the Immanuel Lutheran tournament .

### **Soccer (coed)**

**Junior Varsity:** Grades 3-6

**Varsity:** Grades 7-8

**Season:** Begins after basketball when there is enough interest and teams to play.

### **Volleyball (girls)**

**Junior Varsity:** Grades 3-6

**Varsity:** Grades 7-8

**Season:** Practice begins before or during the first week of school and culminates mid-October.

### **Track and field (boys and girls)**

**Varsity:** Grades 3-8. Third- and fourth-graders may be asked to join to help complete the team.

**Season:** Begins in February and runs through May.

## **Physicals**

Each student participating on a Calvary team must have a yearly sports physical. A physical card signed by a physician must be turned into the athletic director before that child can practice or compete. Any special conditions or ailments must be made known to the coach before each season.

## **Sports Fees**

The athletic program at Calvary is operated on funds generated outside the school operating budget. Funds are necessary for equipment, referees, and uniforms. To offset this amount, players are asked to pay a sports fee that helps defray the expenses of that sport in which they are participating. Families are expected to pay a fee to help cover the costs. A fee schedule will be published at the start of each year.

## **Sports Covenants/Code of Conduct**

Prior to participation in each season, players and parents review and promise to follow the rules and guidelines stated on the Sports Covenant. Signed covenants are turned in for each season.

## **Transportation**

Transportation to and from games and practices is parent-led. Students may ride home with parents or friends as long as the coach is aware of the arrangement. For tournaments, students are usually on their own for transportation. Many families will carpool to get their students to the games. The team and coach aid in this responsibility through communication (GroupMe) of the athletes' transportation needs.

## **Practice**

Practice will be held after school for various teams. Each practice is used to develop our athletes' bodies, minds, and spirits. Players are expected to attend all practices. If a time conflict arises, it is the responsibility of that athlete to notify the coach with a written note from a parent or guardian no later than the day before that scheduled event. Practice is a requirement for participation in games. Players who miss practice

will, at the coach's discretion, not be allowed to start the next game. Players who cannot attend practice with a great deal of regularity may be removed from the team.

## Playing Time

The amount of playing time a player receives in a game hinges on the following variables:

- Regularity of attendances at practices
- Attitude during practices and games.
- The needs of the team.
- The experience of the player.
- Physical ability.

All of these, in conjunction with a player's attitude toward the sport, other players, and the coaches are the determining factors in the amount of playing time an athlete receives in a game. Because of the aforementioned reasons, players aren't given equal playing time in games. However, every effort is made to see that players who display a positive attitude and good work ethic in practice do have game experiences. Calvary's coaches believe that every member of the team is valuable with the understanding that roles of each athlete on a team are different. If a concern arises, athletes and parents are asked to take the following steps.

- A mandatory 24-hour cooling-off period.
- After the cooling-off period, you may approach the coach of the team involved and request a meeting.
- Involve the athletic director if needed as a mediator. If resolution isn't accomplished, then follow the progression of the athletic director, Head of School, school board.

## Eligibility

### Academics

Calvary sports teams are filled by student-athletes. Our athletes are students first, athletes second. Each student is required to do the best he/she can in his/her studies with the talent that God has given him/her. Classroom teachers will determine whether or not a student is completing his/her work satisfactorily. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- A student must maintain a C average (no averages below 70%) with no Fs in any class or excessive missing assignments.
- Students must demonstrate a high level of effort to achieve their best in the classroom.
- Academic reviews of athletes will take place on Wednesday after the third week of each term and after the end of each term during the entire sport's season.

If a student is academically ineligible, the student cannot participate or dress for games until the next time grades are checked; either at the end of the term or the midpoint of the next term. Students are expected to participate in practice while working to improve his/her grades. Students remain a part of the team and are expected to travel with the team, although they are not allowed to be in uniform. The student is ineligible until the student has improved their academic standing.

## **Attendance**

Full time attendance in school is mandatory for all student-athletes. Students must be in school and participate fully in all activities to be eligible to play in games or practice that day. Any student who attends school for less than a half-day will not be allowed to participate that evening. Please contact the athletic director for special circumstances such as doctor's appointments or funerals.

## **Behavior**

Calvary athletes are expected to be kind and courteous at all times. One of the goals of the program is for players to realize the value of others and the importance of working cooperatively with them. This is a goal at all times and all places, not just on the court or the playing fields. Students playing on Calvary teams are representatives of Calvary Episcopal School and must act as role models for other students, as well as being a witness of their faith to fans and other teams. **Players who can't follow these standards will be addressed accordingly. If a student is suspended from school, that student is ineligible during the period of the suspension. If a player is ejected from a game, that player will be ineligible for the next game as well.**

## **Uniforms**

Uniforms are issued at the beginning of each season. Each player is responsible for his/her uniform until the season is completed. Care should be taken in cleaning and repair of the uniform. If the uniform is lost or damaged, the player will have to cover the cost of a replacement (\$40).

No uniform may be worn at any time other than during games or under the coach's supervision. Uniforms must be returned washed, before the athlete can participate in another sport. A fee will be charged for any uniform returned not cleaned.

At times, players may be asked to furnish certain parts of a uniform that are impractical for the school to provide. This might mean the purchase of special items such as shorts, socks, etc.

## **Parent Involvement**

Parental involvement is vital to the success of Calvary's athletic program. To fulfill the purposes of this program, parents must teach and model a positive attitude toward

athletics and sportsmanship. Parents assist the child to establish proper priorities with respect to church, family, peers, study and play. They participate in the development of the student's abilities. They love, encourage and build up the esteem and confidence of their child. There is no substitution for parental support.

Parents also show support for the athletic program through volunteer efforts. Every part of Calvary's athletic program is made possible through the volunteer efforts of faculty, parents and supporters. To keep the program in operation, many volunteers are needed. Parents are required to assist during each season their child participates with concession stands, admissions, scoreboard/scorebook, clean up and helping with meets.



## Code of conduct

As a player or parent, I will ...

- Consider all opponents as friends and guests and will treat them with courtesy.
- Accept all decisions by an official.
- Accept decisions made by the coaching staff.
- Shows respect for all players and officials.
- Never utter abusive or irritating remarks.
- Applaud teammates and opponents who make good plays or reflect good sportsmanship.
- Seek to play fairly and according to the rules of the game.
- Respect the game for its own sake and not what it can do for me.
- Win without boasting and lose without excuse.
- Put forth the best effort each game.
- Put the team ahead of individual statistics.
- Celebrate the opportunity to participate and be active.
- Praise God for giving me the ability to contribute to a cause.

Any player, parent or fan disregarding these guidelines shall be asked to leave the gym or playing field. *If a player is ejected from a game, that player will be ineligible for the next game as well.* **If the parent or fan refuses, the game shall not continue until the person or persons leave and could result in the forfeiture of the game. Any parent or fan that consistently violates these regulations shall not be allowed to attend games until such time as a meeting has been held with the Head of School and the athletic director.**

I have read and agree to follow the conditions of the Calvary Episcopal Athletic Handbook and Sports' Covenant.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete #1 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete #2 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*This form must be signed by both custodial parents/guardians who will be attending practices/games and athletes in each family for EACH SCHOOL YEAR. Athletes will not be able to participate in games until it has been turned in.