



**Saint Francis Catholic Academy**  
**ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**  
**Parent and Student Signature REQUIRED**



**Athletic Participation** Frequently, participation on an athletic team at Saint Francis Catholic Academy is a commitment embarked upon through a tryout process. Coaches go to great lengths to insure sufficient time and opportunity for each student to demonstrate his or her skills to the coaching staff of a particular sport. Saint Francis Catholic Academy is confident that each coach maintains an unbiased opinion during the selection process. When a limited number of students are allowed on a roster, the tryout process is employed as the fairest way to field the most capable athletes.

Inherent in the process is the need to inform some students that they have not qualified for the team. Selection to a team is based solely on the tryout procedure. Previous performance or involvement with a program does not influence any decision of the coach. If not chosen, an athlete should be of the attitude that he or she will do whatever is necessary to improve his or her skill and try out the next season. Parents are expected to support the coach, abide by his or her decision and encourage their child to set a goal for the next season and assist them in attaining it.

Those who are selected to be members of any team are expected to give 100% and demonstrate true sportsmanship on and off the playing arena. They are valued representatives of Saint Francis Catholic Academy and should exhibit the Catholic values. Parents of team members must follow the same guidelines; accept and abide by the decisions of the contest officials; and respect at all times the opposing coaches, participants, cheerleaders, and fans. Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures will result in your removal from the campus. Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest. Be a fan, not a “fanatic”. There should be a total effort by all parties to continue to make the Saint Francis Wolves athletic programs successful.

During the season, there may be situations that require a conference between a coach and a parent. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other’s position. When these conferences are necessary, the following should be done to promote resolution: 1) call the coach to set an appointment, 2) if the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting, 3) please do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. This can be an emotional time for both the parent and coach – meetings of this nature will not promote good dialogue or resolution. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the next step would be to set an appointment with the Athletic Director. Please refrain from immediate contact with the Principal concerning a problem. If a situation requires the Principal’s attention, the Athletic Director will direct it to that office.

**School Absence** A student may not attend a practice or a game the day of an excused or unexcused absence. A student missing 2.5 classes, not including lunch, or more is considered absent for athletic participation.

**Academic Athletic Eligibility** FHSAA Bylaw 9.4.1 policy states that a student must have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale at the conclusion of each semester, as required by Florida Statutes, to be academically eligible during the next semester. This GPA must include all courses required for graduation including those taken by the student before he/she entered high school. If a student falls below the 2.0 cumulative grade point average requirement, the student will meet with the Athletic Director, Dean of Students, and the Guidance Counselor to discuss FHSAA options.

**Athletic Conduct Policy** Students who participate in interscholastic athletics represent Saint Francis Catholic Academy and are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, as well as the rules and policies set forth by the Florida High School Athletic Association. Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege and should be regarded as such, therefore student-athletes are expected to exhibit the qualities of integrity, respect and sportsmanship at all times. The Code of Conduct applies to the student-athlete as a representative of Saint Francis Catholic Academy and includes: practice, travel, games, pre and post-game conduct. Students who violate any part of the Code of Conduct or the FHSAA policies while representing Saint Francis Catholic Academy will be subject to disciplinary action through the Office of the Dean of Students and Administration, as well as penalties handed down by the FHSAA. Any misconduct by a student-athlete resulting in a fine by the FHSAA will be paid for by the offending student or billed to his/her account.

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**Unsportsmanlike Conduct – FHSAA Policy** Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for the remainder of that contest and in any interscholastic athletic contest for the next seven (7) calendar days at the same level, or any level, of participation at which the student athlete was ejected. If less than two contests are scheduled during this seven day period of time at the same level of disqualification (ejection), the student shall be ineligible for the next game or a minimum of two (2) contests in all other sports. If the disqualification (ejection) occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. A student athlete who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for any act of “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” or a second or subsequent act of general unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest for a period of up to six weeks. Acts constituting gross unsportsmanlike conduct are defined in FHSAA Bylaws 7.2.1.

**Dismissal/Withdrawal from a Team** If a student is dismissed or withdraws from a team, he or she may not participate or practice with another school team for the duration of the dismissed/withdrawal team’s season unless he or she has the permission of the coaches.

**Transportation to and from Athletic Events** If selected for participation on a team, the parent/guardian and student acknowledge and understand that many of the required events take place way from Saint Francis Catholic Academy campus and that the student’s presence will be required at such events. Saint Francis Catholic Academy provides transportation to and/or from some, but not all, of its sporting events. If transportation is not provided for any game or event, the parent/guardian and the student understand and agree that it is their sole responsibly to provide transportation to and from the event and to arrive in a timely manner. If Saint Francis Catholic Academy does provide transportation to an event or game, the parent and student understand that the student will be required to use that transportation to the game. Return transportation to Saint Francis may also be provided and the parent/guardian agrees that it is in the sole discretion of Saint Francis Catholic Academy coaches and administrators to determine whether or not a student will be required to return via the provided transportation. There may be time when Saint Francis Catholic Academy may offer non-mandatory return transportation to Saint Francis from a game. In those cases, the parent/guardian and student are required to notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance of the even of the means of transportation that will be used by the student to leave that event. Otherwise the student will be required to return to Saint Francis via the transportation provided. The parent/guardian hereby authorizes the student to sign out for early release when transportation is being provided by Saint Francis Catholic Academy. The parent/guardian and student do hereby release and hold harmless Saint Francis Catholic Academy, its employees and agents, their personal representatives and assigns from any loss or damage due to any injury to the person or property of the student, or death caused by negligence or otherwise, while the student is engaged in the event or while being transported by Saint Francis Catholic Academy to or from the event. Furthermore, the parent/guardian understand that Saint Francis Catholica Academy does not play any role in the organization of car pools to or from athletic events. Should a parent/guardian or student chose to participate in such a car pool, they do so on their own initiative and according to their own wishes.

**Team Uniforms** All uniform items are to be returned at the completion of each season and in the same condition as they were received. Failure to return any item will result in the cost being charged to the student’s account and a hold being placed on student records.

\* I have read the Athletic Participation Agreement and understand the information concerning Athletic Participation and will abide by all guidelines.

*Signature required:*

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature