



Athletic Handbook

2022-2023

St. Luke's Episcopal School

Tiger Athletics

Fall Sports:

Cross Country

Soccer

Volleyball

Winter Sports:

Basketball

Spring Sports:

Golf

Tennis

Track and Field

Athletic Coordinator: Ed Burton eburton@sles-sa.org

Physical Education: Angie Shotzberger ashotzberger@sles-sa.org

St Luke's Episcopal School (SLES) is an official member of the Independent School Athletic League (ISAL).

INTRODUCTION

The information in this handbook is intended to provide a description of our athletic program, including its goals, virtues, and expectations.

PURPOSE

St. Luke's Episcopal School (SLES) athletics foster the development of young athletes while recognizing the student's primary obligations to academics and citizenship in the community.

PHILOSOPHY

SLES is committed to creating a culture in which athletes, coaches, parents and fans work together to achieve our mission. We strive to provide a balanced program while teaching discipline, respect, and sportsmanship. All athletes are challenged to represent St. Luke's principles of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

GOAL

The goal of athletic participation is to create a positive experience for all athletes. Our program is designed to build a solid foundation of technique in a variety of sports, self confidence, and positive moral character.

Student-athletes work with teachers and coaches to develop the skills necessary to manage a variety of academic, community, and athletic commitments.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SLES athletics are open to all students in grades 5th through 8th grade.

SLES provides each athlete with a game uniform. It is the student's responsibility to keep the uniform clean and in good condition. All uniforms will be returned upon completion of each season. Payment will be required for lost or ruined uniforms.

Transportation to games is sport specific and will be communicated to participating families in a timely manner. A working schedule of practice times and games will be provided at the beginning of each season. All events are subject to change due to weather or other conflicts. If changes are necessary, parents will be notified by RenWeb Parent Alert or email notification. Changes will also be posted to the SLES website calendar. Outside commitments that conflict with athletic schedules should be discussed with the specific sport's coach or athletic director prior to the athlete's commitment.

COMMUNICATION

Players must communicate via email with the coach prior to missing any practice

or games for any reason. If this does not occur, it will be considered an unexcused absence which will result in decreased playing or competing time.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We will need parent volunteers to help with admissions, concessions, and the scorers table for volleyball and basketball home games. We will provide sign ups and help with communication.

PARTICIPATION

Sports physicals must be completed and uploaded to Magnus before an athlete is eligible to participate. All uniforms must be returned before the student will receive the next season's uniform.

NO-CUT POLICY

1. The Athletic Coordinator and Administration will meet to discuss any/all roster cuts prior to that information being shared with students and their parents.
2. Generally speaking, coaches will strive to keep everyone on a team whenever possible. This practice will of course be impacted by available facilities personnel and practice efficiency limitations.
3. Because roster spots are not guaranteed, coaches will continually communicate "status" to their student athletes in an effort to minimize confusion and avoid potential issues.

QUITTING POLICY

1. There will not be any penalty for students trying a sport and quitting during the initial grace period. The grace period covers all the practices through the first competition.
2. We strongly recommend any athlete who feels it necessary to quit a team to discuss their feelings with the head coach prior to quitting.
3. Any athlete quitting a sport after the grace period shall not be allowed to participate in the next sports season. This policy may be appealed to the athletic director and athletic supervisor based upon extenuating circumstances.

4. In the event that the athlete decides to quit, they must turn in all issued equipment and uniforms immediately to the coach or athletic coordinator.

SCHOOL VS CLUB SPORTS

1. We highly encourage athletes to participate in club sports. However, we ask that they also participate and represent the school athletic team in that sport as well.

2. Priority is given to the school-related team competitions, but consideration will be given to the athlete's club schedule.

TEAM SELECTION AND PLAYING TIME GUIDELINES

1. Fifth through eighth graders may be placed at their highest skill level, inclusive of participating on an eighth grade team.

2. Eighth graders may not play on a seventh grade team--if they need to be placed at a lower level, it must be on an eighth grade B team.

3. If there are not enough players for an eighth grade B team, then all eighth grade students will participate on the one eighth grade A team. Coaches may still place fifth-seventh graders on that team.

4. The Athletic Coordinator will be consulted before the following:

- a. Any fifth-seventh grade student is moved to an eighth grade team
- b. A decision is made about carrying extra players on an eighth grade team.

5. All players will participate in each competition, however, in order to put forth the most competitive team, playing/competition time will not be equal. Playing time is also determined by factors such as attitude, commitment and work ethic.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Enjoy watching your daughter/son participate and learn more about the game.

- Keep all comments positive, from how they played, to the opponents, officials, coaches, fans, teammates, etc... They will respond to your energy.
- Respect the coaches' decisions, even if you might not agree with them.
- Allow your son/daughter to be a self-advocate and talk to the coach

about any concerns first.

- Adhere to the 24-hour rule. If you have a question regarding the game, please wait 24 hours to speak to your coach. Immediately following a game is not an appropriate time for discussions.
- Players will be included in all parent meetings.
- Playing time will not be discussed during parent meetings.
- Order of Communication - If there are any questions regarding your student athlete, please follow the below order of communication:
 1. The student meets with their Head Coach
If there are any questions/concerns...
 2. The parent(s) and student meet with Head Coach
If there are any questions/concerns...
 3. Parent(s) and Head Coach meet with Athletic Coordinator
If there are any questions/concerns...

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

We believe the opportunity to participate in our athletic program is a privilege, not a right. Therefore all student-athletes are expected to maintain a high standard of behavior as well as academic excellence. In order to remain as an athlete in good standing, an athlete must meet the requirements and fulfill the responsibilities outlined in this Student-Athlete Agreement. SLES fosters an environment that supports academic excellence. Athletes must remain in good academic standing to participate fully in athletics.

An athlete is in good standing as long as they maintain 70% or higher in each class. Academic reviews are reported to Administration on the 3rd, 6th and 9th weeks of each quarter. If an athlete's average falls below 70%, additional support will be available for the athlete's academic support and development. Practices and/or games may be suspended until the student is in good academic standing. If an athlete becomes ineligible for academic reasons, the athlete can be fully reinstated to the team following a recommendation from the School Administration/Athletic Coordinator.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES-(Updated 7/2022)

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

- Student-Athletes will uphold the highest level of sportsmanship and will control their words and actions so that they always appear in control of themselves.
- The administration of this school has made it clear to coaches, parents, and athletes that hazing and initiations are never to be part of our program. The administration of St. Luke's Episcopal School has adopted a "Zero Tolerance" policy in regards to the hazing or bullying of students and athletes.
- Any student who participates or who witnesses and does not attempt to stop or report the violation is subject to disciplinary action. If the violation is severe enough the disciplinary action could be possible legal action.

ACTS DETRIMENTAL TO THE GOOD OF THE SCHOOL

- If a student is involved in an act which is deemed detrimental to the good of the school his or her participation on the athletic team is subject to termination immediately. i. i.e. Fighting, stealing, cheating and being disrespectful to students, teachers, or administrators
- All cases will be looked at on a case by case basis. A decision will come from the Head of School, the Athletic Coordinator, and the Coach

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITIES-(Updated 7/2022)

SLES encourages students to behave in a manner that promotes a positive learning environment. SLES disciplinary policy prohibits bullying, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and abuse, substance use, and other negative and potentially illegal behaviors. Students may be disciplined for violation of SLES disciplinary policy while on school premises, in proximity to school premises, when coming to or going from school, while on school-owned and operated school buses or on chartered buses, while engaged in an approved and supervised activity on or off school premises, and when the good order, safety or welfare of the school or its students is affected as a result of the out of school action. A student participating in SLES athletics and/or co-curricular activities who violates an SLES disciplinary policy may, in addition to other disciplinary action, be suspended or expelled from participation in SLES athletics and/or co-curricular activities, as determined by the appropriate SLES faculty/staff member.

Classroom Behavior

Athletes who have repeated behavior issues and poor conduct grades in the classroom may be suspended from a team on a temporary basis or permanently if the problem continues.

Suspension from School

If an athlete is suspended from school for any reason, he/she will be ineligible from all activities during the period of suspension.

The administration of SLES may amend the Athletic Handbook for appropriate cause. Parents and students will be notified in writing in the event significant changes are made.

By signing below, we confirm that we have received, reviewed, and comply with all expectations of the SLES Athletic Handbook. In doing so, we give our child permission to participate in SLES Athletics during the 2022-2023 school year.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____