

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK
2018-2019



General Information

Our Beliefs

Athletics are an important part of a Christian's balanced life. Through athletic activities, we learn about and use our physical, mental, and emotional attributes. When we use these to God's glory, we also incorporate athletic activities into our worship life. These policies are designed to help parents and students grow in the four areas of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual development.

Interscholastic sports are one area of athletics. It is the most public and can be a positive showcase for our Lord's ministry when we keep it a fun and positive learning experience. Athletics are an integrated part of the educational experience at Emmanuel. It is a tool used to provide a fun arena for learning where hard work and honest effort brings rewards.

There is a progression from lower grades to upper grades in our athletic program. The lower grades (3-6) emphasize individual development and exploration of the sport. In the upper grades (7-8), there is a transition to a more competitive atmosphere where athletes who are dedicated and work hard are rewarded with more playing time. Learning to win is important; but not at the expense of our goals or at the expense of our school's ministry.

Our Goals:

- that athletics be marked by our love and gratefulness to our Savior
- that all have fun
- that athletic activities be part of a balanced life
- that there is high participation by the student body
- that there is quality coaching
- that all learn teamwork
- that all learn to strive to win

Activities Offered:

The following sports are offered if coaches, players, and facilities are available:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Flag FB	X		5-8
Volleyball		X	5-8
Soccer	X	X	5-8 (One co-ed team)
Basketball	X	X	4-8
Track & Field	X	X	3-8

Athletic Fees

Participation in ELS athletics requires a \$40 fee per student; to be paid before the 1st practice of the 1st sports season the student intends to participate in. This is an all-encompassing fee that covers participation in all ELS athletic seasons throughout the school year.

- 4th graders participating in basketball will only be required to pay a \$20 fee.
- 3rd-4th graders participating in Track & Field will not be required to pay a fee.

Tryouts

Tryouts may be necessary if:

- the number of students who sign up for an activity exceeds a “coachable” number of players
OR
- if students from a class must be split to make two separate teams.

The tryouts will be conducted by the coaches and overseen by the athletic director. During the tryout period, past behavior, commitment, and eligibility will be considered, as well as sports skills.

Participation Requirements & Responsibilities

General Sports Rules for Students

1. Parent/guardian and student must sign and return the Emmanuel Lions Athletic Code. This handout states that they have read and agree to the policies stated in the *Emmanuel Athletic Handbook*.
2. Students must comply with the school work policy as mentioned in the Athletic Code in order to participate.
3. No food, candy, or gum is allowed at practices.
4. Students are to be on time at all practices and games unless a valid written excuse from a parent or guardian is given to the coach. Plan your activities ahead so that you are not committed to two things at the same time. Emmanuel activities should come first.
5. Students are to be dressed modestly and appropriately for all practices as well as games, as stated in the school dress code. It will be up to the coaches’ discretion if any action needs to be taken. Students may not play if they don’t have the proper attire.
6. No student is to use foul language.
7. Practice/game areas are to be kept clean. Do not leave litter at our school or at other schools.
8. No friends or siblings will be allowed to watch or wait in the practice area before or during practice without parent supervision. Please plan accordingly.
9. Students who miss any part of the school day due to illness or any absence will not be able to participate in a practice or game that day.

Uniform Usage Responsibility:

Although Emmanuel supplies the uniforms, some sports require extra equipment to be purchased separately. (For example: kneepads for volleyball; mouth-guards for FB, shin guards for soccer).

Participants who lose, damage, or do not return a uniform will be responsible for the replacement cost of the uniform. Also, they will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the account is settled. Uniforms are expensive, but they can last many seasons if they are given proper care. **Please wash only in cold water and hang dry or tumble dry on the “no heat” setting. Hang drying would always be preferred.**

Transportation:

Emmanuel is not responsible for arranging transportation of players to and from games. Transportation to and from all games and practices is the responsibility of parents. All parents are encouraged to work together and to do their share of the driving so all players can attend games. Please keep in mind the seatbelt laws of the State of Arizona when transporting students. **By signing the back form of this handbook, parents indicate that they will take sole responsibility for arranging transportation for their children as it pertains to ELS athletic events in the 2018/19 school year.**

General Sports Code for Parents

As a parent whose child or children are participants in Emmanuel's athletic program, I will respect and support:

My child

When modeled and taught correctly, children can learn valuable life lessons through athletics. Positive reinforcement and gentle correction/instruction are essential for these lessons to be instilled in the child. Children will make mistakes on the field/court; it is the manner in how those mistakes are corrected that will have a positive impact moving forward. Please practice this with your children.

The school, coach, and team

Athletics are an extension of the ministry here at Emmanuel Lutheran Church & School. Many of the coaches are teachers and volunteers who strive to instill a passion for athletics in the children, using God-given abilities to glorify Him in all things. The role of parents is to work together with and support the coach in the instruction of their child. Communication is crucial, and both parents and coaches should strive to do this on a regular basis. Be a positive role model that reflects the love of Christ.

The officials

Most officials are also volunteers who are very generous to give their time and talents to aid the children in the education of sport. All parents will respect the officials and allow them to officiate the game as they see fit. Parents will refrain from constant complaining towards officials and all others at the athletic event. Rather, encouragement and positive lessons should be modeled for children after every call/ruling (whether correct or incorrect).

The other school/team

Both parents and children tend to be more critical of an opponent after a loss. Even though, at times, children learn more in defeat than in victory. A child that sees a parent appreciate the players on the opposing team will learn about respect. Showing positive support for the other team may be tough at times, but is an important value that must be learned and demonstrated at an early age.

Emmanuel Lutheran Lions Athletic Code

Emmanuel Lutheran School provides extra-curricular activities to give its students the opportunities to use, develop, and extend their God-given abilities and talents. Although these activities are after regular school hours, they are under the direction of the school. Therefore, the school has the following expectations of a student representing him/herself, Emmanuel Lutheran School, and our Lord as a Lion. Parents are asked to review the criteria of the code with their child(ren) and assist them in meeting its obligations.

A Lion must perform satisfactory work in the classroom in the following ways:

- 1). A student must be working up to his/her God-given ability and potential.
- 2). A student's completed work must be the result of his/her own effort and finished on time.
- 3). A student must maintain passing grades. A progress report or report card with any grade lower than a C- could result in a student being ineligible for extracurricular activities. (Special consideration may be given after consultation with the child, parents, teachers, and principal.) Any child who receives a grade lower than a C- at any of the "grade-check points" (mid-term or end-of-quarter) will be deemed ineligible for the duration of the current or upcoming sports season.

EFFORT – A Lion is expected to show a caring and learning effort in the classroom as well as in extracurricular events.

ATTITUDE – A Lion is expected to show a positive attitude toward their school, classmates, teachers, class work, and coaches. Not doing so may result in ineligibility.

CONDUCT – A Lion is expected to exhibit Christian conduct in and away from school, and at neighboring schools when playing.

RESPECT – A Lion is expected to demonstrate Christian love and respect for others.

A Lion is restricted from the use or possession of all alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, or any controlled substance not given by a licensed physician.

It is essential that good sportsmanship be displayed and supported – win or lose – by all Lions, their parents and families, and all others in attendance at extra-curricular events. Part of learning the game is practicing self-control and Christian conduct, even when you do not see something exactly the same way that others do.

Lions **are expected** to show good sportsmanship to: 1) all players, 2) referees/officials in charge, and 3) all fans and spectators.

Students not meeting the above criteria for extra-curricular activities will be disciplined on an individual basis.

Eligibility for participation will be reviewed by the teacher, student, parents, principal, and/or athletic director.



Athletic Transportation Parent/Guardian Guidelines

Parents of students participating are responsible for arranging transportation to and from the sites for their child(ren). *Please do not leave this responsibility up to your child(ren).* Maps to the game sites will be made available as necessary and upon request. (Addresses to locations will also be on the ELS online calendar). Please have your child(ren) at the site at least 20-30 minutes before the game time.

If you are unable to drive for an event, it will be your responsibility to make proper arrangements with other drivers. This will include communication of time and locations. You must also assume the responsibility of ensuring the safety of your child as it pertains to the driver and vehicle including: phone number exchange, the drivers record and license, insurance, seat belt and appropriate child restraint seat. You should also ensure that your child will not be left without proper supervision, and that he/she will not be left in the company of just one adult or without others present.

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It is understood that I/we release Emmanuel Lutheran Church and School, School Board, employees, agents and representatives from any claim we may have resulting from any illnesses or injuries sustained by our child while he/she is a passenger with my agreed-upon driver.

We further agree to hold harmless Emmanuel Lutheran Church and School, School Board, employees, agents and representatives from any injury or damage which may be caused by my/our child(ren). (Please sign & return form on the following page)

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**PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE
AND RETURN TO SCHOOL**

I have read and agree to the policies in this Athletic Handbook, to
the Codes, and to the driver provisions as stated.

Student(s): _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____