



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
1600 Highway 2004
Richwood, Texas 77531
979-265-3909 FAX 979-265-9780 www.olqpschool.org

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK
2021-2022

At this time we are not having fall athletic teams due to COVID-19. One of our primary goals is to maintain a safe environment for our students.

This Athletic Handbook is provided to inform students and parents of the athletic procedures and policies of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School. We ask parents to carefully read all sections of the handbook and review them with their child(ren).

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School operates in accordance with the Archdiocesan Board of Education policy number 621 that reads:

“A school within the boundaries of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston that will be known as a Catholic School shall follow the regulations set forth by the Catholic School Office.”

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston guarantee all students the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to the general student body. Catholic Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, or national origin.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School adheres to the guidelines established by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department and maintains full accreditation status. We currently hold membership in the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). Our athletic association is governed under the Greater Houston Catholic Athletic Association (GHCAA) guidelines.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School and administration retain the right to amend the Athletic Handbook. By no means is the Handbook considered all-inclusive. Administration and staff will exercise professional judgment and discretion to address situations fairly and consistently.

The enrollment of a child(ren) at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School in athletics is considered to be an agreement on the part of the student and parents or guardians that they will comply with all school procedures, regulations, and policies including, but not limited to such procedures, regulations, and policies in this Athletic Handbook.

After reviewing this Athletic Handbook with your child(ren), sign the acknowledgement form located at the back of this Handbook. This form must be returned to the Athletic Director.

"Surely you know that your body is a temple where the Holy Spirit lives. The Spirit is in you and is a gift from God. You are no longer your own. God paid a great price for you. So use your body to honor God."
1 Corinthians 6: 19-20

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School exists to fulfill the education ministry of the Catholic Church and to provide an all encompassing - spiritual, academic, cultural, and physical - quality elementary and Junior High education for the Southern Brazoria County area.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The philosophy of the athletic program at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School is in accordance with the school's overall mission statement. We at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School believe every facet of life is important - spiritual, physical, intellectual, social and emotional. We believe that every child is unique and valuable because his/her life comes from God. We believe one of the purposes of life is to improve the quality of life for all persons everywhere. We believe if we have helped a child to know, love and serve God, to become more humane, more hopeful, more compassionate toward his fellowman, more able to believe in the ultimate value of life - then we have prepared him for this world and the next. We believe every teacher should utilize a variety of learning methods to benefit individual needs and to prepare students for further education and the successful achievement of personal goals.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School recognizes that an important component of a student's well being and therefore seeks to aid in total development of the individual student through organized, cooperative competition. In addition, it is important for students to develop socially as they learn to work in a team situation and to practice good sportsmanship. The goal of the athletic program is to produce young men and women of strong character, who can be successful in the competitive society in which we live. A secondary goal of the athletic program is the development and cultivation of self-esteem, respect and school spirit.

INTRODUCTION

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School offers a variety of sports for both boys and girls in upper elementary and middle school, including: volleyball, coed soccer, girls/boys basketball, and coed tennis. Additional sports are periodically considered if there is sufficient interest on the part of students and parents. The athletic program falls under the jurisdiction of the School, and is administered by the Principal, the Athletic Director, full-and part-time coaches, and parent volunteers. The Athletic Director serves as an advisory liaison to the Principal, and advises the administration of the program. Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School is a member of the Greater Houston Catholic Athletic Association (GHCAA) and is bound by all the rules of the league. Information about GHCAA can be found at www.ghcaa1.com.

ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS

Participation in athletics is a privilege, requiring a commitment from both student participant and his/her parents. Students earn the privilege of participating through maintaining a commitment to academics, effort, dedication, desire and self discipline.

Enrollment: Students must attend Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School.

Grade Level Requirement: Students in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 are eligible to participate in athletics (Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, and Tennis). 4th grade can participate in Tennis.

Age Requirements: Students on the varsity team may not turn 15 before September 1st. Students on the junior varsity team may not turn 14 before September 1st. Students on the "C" team may not turn 13 before September 1st.

Physicals: Students are required to have a physical each year in order to participate in the Our Lady Queen of Peace Athletics. Physicals must be turned in before the first scheduled practice.

Financial Obligations: Students must be in good standing on all financial obligations to the school, including: tuition, fees, etc. Students will be required to pay an athletic fee for each sport in which they participate. The athletic fee covers the following expenses: officials, uniforms, equipment, tournament awards, entry fees for tournaments and gas. Athletic fees are non-refundable.

Attendance: Students with absences on the day of a game or practice may not participate in athletic activities that day.

Academics/Behavior: Students must maintain an average of 70 or better in every subject area and an "S" or better in conduct in all classes in order to fully participate on an Our Lady Queen of Peace sports team.

Opportunity to participate is determined by eligibility checks that are performed at Progress Reporting Period and Report Card Reporting Period. Academic and behavioral reassessment is done at the next reporting period following the receipt of grades. If a student is placed on probation or is ineligible to play as defines below in sections A) and B), the period begins on the day the grades are checked and continues through the next reporting period, when grades are reassessed. If a student athlete does not improve academically or behaviorally in the deficient class/classes, then he/she will remain ineligible to play through the next reporting period until reassessment. In order to participate in any extracurricular activity, a student shall maintain at least a C (70) average in each subject and satisfactory conduct (S) in each subject, including homeroom, on report card.

The Athletic Director will notify the coaches of the student athletes play status at the time of Progress Reports and Report Cards. Situations that would affect a student athlete's playing status are as follows:

- A) If a student has an average between 70-77 (D), or an "N" in conduct in any subject when grades are checked, the student athlete is placed on **ACADEMIC WARNING** and may continue to participate in the sport at the coach's discretion. Failure to bring grades up to requirement for play (78 – C or better) by the next reporting period will result in ineligibility.
- B) If a student has an average of 69 or lower or a "U" in conduct in any subject, the student is placed on **ACADEMIC PROBATION**, and is ineligible from participating in any games or practices during this period of ineligibility. Failure to bring grades up to requirements for play at the end of the probationary period will result in continued ineligibility.
- C) In the event that a student athlete is suspended from school, the student athlete will be ineligible to play on an OLQP sports team for a period of two weeks. The two-week period will consist of days when school is in session and does not involve holidays or times when school is not in session. The period of ineligibility will begin on the day that written notice of suspension is given to the student/parent and will continue for ten school days. The student may attend practices with the exception of the actual day(s) of suspension. The student cannot participate in games play and cannot travel with the team during the ten-day period.
- D) Student athletes, who display inappropriate behaviors that lead to major referrals, may at the discretion of the principal/assistant principal/coach, be subject to the same policies that apply to student athletes who have been suspended. Verbal and/or written notice will be given to the student athlete/parent.

Sportsmanship: Any student athlete whose conduct, dress, or other display of behavior unbecoming an Our Lady Queen of Peace student which may discredit the reputation of this school, can be declared ineligible for athletic competition. Such decisions are made by the Coach and Athletic Director in consultation with the Principal, and are final.

Parents similarly are expected to refrain from public criticism and/or private remarks which may adversely reflect on our school's participation in interscholastic sports.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Team Selection: The head coach or sponsor is responsible for the team selection process for the individual sport/activity. "C" teams and Jr. Varsity teams will rotate players, with all players being guaranteed a sport-specific minimum of play so that all may learn the finer points of teamwork and improve personal skills. As examples, Volleyball players will play half a game and basketball players will play one quarter. Absence from practice may affect play time. Play-off and championship game individual participation is at the coaches' discretion, meaning that not every team member is guaranteed playing time. Varsity teams are competitive and not all players may play every game.

Team Meeting: The Athletic Director and coaches will hold preseason meetings. Attendance of at least one parent is mandatory. This requirement must be met prior to the student being allowed to participate in competition. Students will be provided with a copy of the Athletic Handbook, fee requirements, practice schedules, game schedules, and game maps.

Practices: Students are expected to attend all practices, games, and meetings called by the coach. If a student misses a practice, game, or meeting, the coach must be notified immediately. Students who miss practice, games, or meetings may lose playing time in future games.

Students are expected to be picked up immediately at the game's or practice's conclusion with definite plans prearranged. A 10-minute grace period for athletes will be allowed prior to late fees of \$1.00 per minute being assessed. This procedure adheres to general school policy for late pick ups. If you are unable to meet this requirement, please have an emergency plan in effect which allows another person, designated by you, to pick up your child.

Uniforms and Equipment: School issued uniforms and equipment are to be used for all Our Lady Queen of Peace games, competitions, and special activities. **The wearing of team uniforms for PE classes is unacceptable.** Care must be taken to keep uniforms and equipment in good condition. One week after the season ends, all uniforms and equipment must be returned to the school in cleaned and good condition. Students may not compete in another sport until uniform matters are resolved.

A student's report card may be withheld at the end of the quarter if uniforms have not been returned. Students who leave a team before the end of a season must return uniforms and equipment immediately. Failure to return athletic uniform will result in Our Lady Queen of Peace billing your family a replacement charge of \$100. Students are responsible for furnishing their own socks, shoes, and knee pads, and shin guards. These must meet team specifications for color, etc.

Facilities and Equipment: Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School is responsible for providing the facilities and equipment needed for practices and games. Students are responsible for personal equipment such as knee pads, safety glasses, shin guards, etc.

Transportation: Transportation to and from away league games will be provided by Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School via their school bus. The student athlete is expected to ride on the school bus with the team to and from all athletic competitions.

Once athletes arrive back to Our Lady Queen of Peace, only parents or pre-designated carpool arrangements will be allowed to pick-up their child. If someone other than the parent is picking up their child, a signed letter by the parent is required before the child will be released.

Injuries: Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School does not provide health or medical insurance for students participating in athletic activities. It is the responsibility of parents to provide insurance coverage or to pay expenses incurred due to accidents and injuries.

Expectations: Students are expected to follow team rules set by the coach. These may include items such as dress, grooming, practice attendance, warm-ups, transportation, uniforms, etc.

Sports Banquet: Following the completion of the Basketball Season, the Athletic Booster Club will host a banquet to honor all athletes of all sports.

Concession Stand: The Athletic Booster Club provides a concession stand at all the home games. This is a fundraising event that benefits the Athletic Department. Please look for sign-ups sheets.

Equipment Manager: There is a position that is available for any OLQP student in grades 5th – 8th. The position's primary purpose is to help the coach setup for practice and games, keep score at the games, prepare spirit messages weekly for all athletes. The equipment manager travels with the athletes to all games.

REGISTRATION FOR PARTICIPATION ON ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

1. Complete and submit the Athletic Team Registration Form.
2. Complete and submit Parent Consent & Medical Physical Form.
3. Sign and submit the Travel Form
4. Have your child's doctor complete Medical physical Form and return to school.
5. Submit designates fee for sport prior to the first practice.

**ALL FORMS ARE LOCATED AT WWW.OLQPSCHOOL.ORG
UNDER "STUDENT LIFE" then "ATHLETICS"**

Athletic Handbook Acknowledgment Form 2021-2022 School Year

"We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who love Him."

Romans 8:28

It is important that every athlete and their parents read and understand the athletic policies which have been outlined in this handbook. Please take the time to go over the handbook together. After reading this handbook, we ask that both the student and the parent(s) sign this form and return it to the coach or activity sponsor. No student will be allowed to participate in sporting events without a signed handbook acknowledgment form in their file.

We have read and discussed the Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School Athletic Handbook. We agree to follow the procedures, regulations, and policies covered in the Athletic Handbook.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please email Coach Lisa Santos @ lsantos@olqpschool.org.

Student Athlete Signature

Date

Grade

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Thank you for your support!
Coach Lisa Santos
Junior High PE Teacher/Athletic Director