

CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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DISCIPLESHIP TRUTH EXCELLENCE

"For the equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God."
Ephesians 4:12-13

2016/2017

**JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

CCA's Official Statements

History

Calvary Christian Academy was founded in September of 1995 as an educational ministry of Calvary Chapel Philadelphia. The primary goal was to work with Christian families to educate and disciple Godly young men and woman. The school initially began as a PK through 8th grade school and soon after added 9th through 12th grades in 1997. In 1998, CCA graduated its first class and since that time has seen students enroll in over 100 different colleges and universities including; University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State University, Calvary Chapel Bible College, Liberty University, West Point Military Academy, Johns Hopkins University, Cedarville University, Temple University, University of Pittsburgh, and Grove City College. CCA received full accreditation from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools in 2012. Our academic programs are designed to meet the learning needs of the honors student, college prep student and the student working at a more basic level. Special education services are provided in accordance to our special education program and handbook. School electives and after school programs provide opportunities for CCA's students to hone the gifts the Lord has given them in areas of the fine arts, athletics, computer science, and the culinary arts. In 2015, Calvary Christian Academy celebrated 20 years of serving Christ's kids.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to share in the ministry of Calvary Chapel by offering Christian education from a Biblical worldview, while partnering with parents who have the God-given responsibility to educate their children. We desire to raise up disciples for Christ by promoting academic, social and spiritual excellence. Equipping students to become a transforming influence on the world for Christ is at the core of a CCA education.

Ephesians 4: 12-13

Diversity and Marriage Statement

Calvary Christian Academy believes that an individual's first responsibility is to the God of the Bible and that a person's whole life should reflect His framework in a context of peace and selfless love. CCA asserts that a genuine love for and interaction with diverse peoples is a biblical mandate. Moreover, Calvary Christian Academy recognizes that we are all one in the body of Christ. Our standard for diversity is found in the Bible. Individual differences in lifestyle that deny, ignore or reject biblical standards represent diversity in rebellion to God's standards and hence, are unacceptable for the families of CCA. CCA holds to the beliefs as stated in the King James Version of the Bible and asserts that marriage is the union between one man and one woman, and that from the beginning of the creation God made humans in two distinct sexes, male and female.

Statement of Non-discrimination

It is the commitment of CCA to provide Christian education by and for God's elect, holy and beloved, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth that is after godliness, and in that context and for that purpose does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex and ethnic background. This policy of non-discrimination is exercised during student admission, hiring of faculty and staff, and all school-administered programs.

CCA's Philosophy of Education

CCA's Philosophy of Education is based upon a Biblical worldview that has been developed out of a literal interpretation of the Bible, as presented in the King James Version. It is impossible to disconnect our learning and development from the power and purposes of our Creator God. At the very core of CCA's worldview and philosophy of education is God's Word. It is the foundation of CCA's philosophical framework. From the origin of man to ethics and morality, we believe all logic and reasoning is based upon the tenets of Scripture. It is upon this premise that Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia built and developed Calvary Christian Academy. The governing bodies of both the school and the church are in full agreement with CCA's Philosophy of Education.

CCA's Philosophy of Education is based upon our Biblical worldview and not upon the philosophy of man. All truth is God's truth. God's Word is truth according to the Scripture (John 17:17, KJV) and according to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. As such CCA's Philosophy of Education is defined by the master teacher himself, Jesus Christ. Teaching should be personal and individual. All methods, instructional practices, activities and assessments should be geared toward allowing the learner to better understand the knowledge of God and be better prepared to serve the Lord through successfully navigating and interacting with the world around them. We are set apart for God by understanding His truth; therefore God must be at the core of all the principles, facts and truths we teach.

CCA develops the curriculum and programs of the school based upon a Biblical worldview. A Biblical worldview is an assurance that the knowledge gained will be based upon God's truth and not just the correlations made by respected men and women of science, history, mathematics and language. While these respected individuals have made vast contributions to our understanding of the world around us, our understanding is not complete until we filter it through God's Word. Our knowledge of God and His Word should cause us to fear no vain philosophy or body of knowledge. We have real truth in our hearts and in Scripture and with such knowledge and truth we should be able to disprove the fake and vain philosophies of the world. The better we know the creation, the better we know the creator. With a strong Biblical worldview the disciplines of math, science, history and language are but a mere platform for believers to express the goodness of God, the truth of His Word and to praise Him for His many blessings. Psalm 19:1 states, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (NIV).

The Athletic Program at Calvary Christian Academy

Purpose Statement of CCA Athletics

The Calvary Christian Athletic Department's purpose is to give our athletes an opportunity to compete at a high level of interscholastic play, develop strong character and leadership qualities, and grow deeper in their walk with the Lord. Calvary Athletics is focused on team development rather than individual glory or spectator entertainment. The goal of both the athletic staff and coaches is to not just win, but more importantly to develop men and women of character that will have an impact on the world for Christ.

Philosophy of Athletics at CCA

The athletic program of CCA is an active component of the educational package for our students. Through a balanced athletic program our students have the opportunity for physical development in a team context with the opportunity to demonstrate Christian character. Team sports allow the student athlete to develop maturation in sportsmanship, social interaction, commitment, self-image, discipline and physical fitness.

Involvement in athletics requires a sacrifice of time and energy. Student athletes are encouraged in the program at CCA to be able to balance involvement with the team without giving up the commitment that is necessary for sound educational progress. As with any extra-curricular activity at the school, the academic progress of the student is the priority.

Athletics are not conducted apart from the spiritual development of the student. Our coaches have a passion for Christ evident in their daily walk along with a passion for students and their prospective sport. Coaches are given the same responsibility of our teachers to equip the students as a Christian for every good work while developing the physical, mental and emotional aspects of the body. While our coaches will strive for excellence in their sport, they will retain the goal of having our athletes always be a testimony of Christ.

The program starts at the junior high level with opportunities for those who are experienced and for those who are not. Through skill development and participation in games these young athletes are able to refine both their interest and their talents for high school participation.

Junior High Philosophy

Junior high athletics (6th, 7th, and 8th grades) are built around the understanding of the unique nature of the development of adolescent youth. With many mental, physical and emotional changes taking place in these young athletes, the program is designed to allow as much participation as possible with an emphasis on learning the skills and fundamentals of the game. All of our junior high students are encouraged to participate in our athletic program. While athletics are not for everyone, each student is encouraged at this level to try different activities that the school provides.

Junior high teams strive to develop the body through emphasis on exercise, nutrition, and rest. Teaching lifelong habits is as important as the skills and techniques. Students are taught how to prepare for a season, how to warm up before practice, and how to treat injuries. Enthusiasm, effort, reliance on team members and sportsmanship are fostered at this level. While winning is the desired result of any game, coaches are looking more for students that develop a love of the game.

Every student that is on the roster will participate at this level. Coaches provide ample playing time to every student. The desire is that each student be able to participate in at least one quarter of every game. Starters may be established by a coach, yet every student should be able to start at least one game a season..

Our desire is never to cut any student at this level. Whenever possible the size of the squad will allow us not to have to cut anyone. However, this may not be the case in every sport. When cuts are necessary, they must meet the following criteria:

1. Permission to cut must be given by the athletic director.
2. Cuts will only be done when more than one person must be cut.
3. Cuts and/or rosters will never be posted.
4. Care will be given to avoid singling out individuals.

Junior Varsity Philosophy

Junior varsity teams begin at the high school level and usually are made up of 9th and 10th graders. Occasionally 11th and 12th graders may still participate on this level. This level of athletics allows the student to continue to develop the skills and techniques of the game. However, this level increases the competition internally and externally. Demands for in season and out of season training will grow. Practice and length of game time will increase slightly also.

At the junior varsity level participation of the entire squad is important. Every team member should be involved in every game. Those that have made more progress in skill development will get more playing time. The pattern of substitution will reflect the desire to get all involved while keeping the competitive nature of the game in balance. Individual development will continue while team development becomes more of a focus.

Varsity Philosophy:

Varsity teams are made up of students at the high school level whose skills have developed to a level where they continue to be fine-tuned and are able to battle stiff interscholastic competition. Team development and team season ending goals are more important at this level. Each member of the team has a vital role no matter how much they play. The unity of the team grows as each player accepts a given role.

CCA believes in fielding the best possible team at the varsity level. This does not mean the best will play the most. Every team member may not see action in every game. In striving to succeed at this level, CCA will not compromise the overall philosophy of building Christian character.

Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct:

Parents are a vital part of our athletic program. CCA recognizes that the school operates as an extension of the home. This extension demands that all participants in our sports program - athlete, coach or parent - behave in a manner worthy of being identified with Christ. Just as we look to our athletes to honor a code, we ask that parents do the same. We ask that parents and spectators cheer by building up, not tearing down or criticizing our players, opponents, coaches, and officials. We also ask that parents and fans respect decisions made by officials and coaches and enjoy the game in a respectful manner. If a parent or spectator is unable to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner they may be asked to leave the premises.

* Note: 24 Hour Rule - If a parent wishes to discuss issues with a coach then it should be done by scheduling a meeting with him or her. Issues or disagreements should not be done following a practice or a game. This allows for coach and parent to enter the meeting with a proper frame of mind and not in the "heat of a moment." The Athletic Director may also be present at the meeting at the request of either party.

Student Athlete Policy and Responsibilities

Requirements for Participation:

In order to participate on an athletic team at CCA, the following must be done.

1. Submit a completed physical (**Must be filled out after June 1st each school year by a physician on a standard PIAA form which can be found on the athletic website under “forms”**)
2. Submit a registration form/commitment contract. (A new form must be filled out for each season played by a parent and can also be found on the athletic website under “forms”)
3. Satisfy all eligibility requirements (See below)
4. Complete concussion baseline test (administered at CCA)
5. Pay athletic fee (See below)

Academic Progress:

A student athlete must maintain satisfactory progress in all courses of study. **A student will become ineligible if they have earned below a 65 in one of the following core subjects: English, history, science or math.**

Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of the grading period, and shall be reported on a weekly basis. If a student is failing a core course on any Friday, he/she will be ineligible to participate in his/her sport from the following Sunday through Saturday. If the cumulative grade is a 65% or higher by the next Friday, he/she may resume participation.

At the end of the marking period, if a student has failed any of the four core subjects (64% or lower) or has two Ds (65%-69%) in any of the four core subjects, he/she will be ineligible to participate in sports for fifteen school days beginning on the day grades handed to the students.

At the end of the school year, the student's yearly and/or quarterly average grade in the core subjects shall be used to determine the student's eligibility for the upcoming fall season. Students whose work does not meet the standards provided but attend summer school and correct their deficiencies, shall be eligible.

Age:

In order to participate on one of CCA's sports teams, a student may not have reached his/her 19th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the school year. In addition, a student may not represent his/her school in interscholastic athletics if he/she has been in attendance more than eight semesters beyond the eighth grade.

Amateur Status:

You must be an amateur to be able to compete in interscholastic athletics. You will lose this status if you accept money for participating or performing in your sport. Likewise you will lose amateur status by accepting compensation for teaching, training or coaching in a sport.

Athletic Fee:

A fee of \$175 is to be paid for each sport played at the junior and senior high level. This fee is used to offset the cost of operating an interscholastic sports program. The athletic fee is due on the first day of practice; no student will be permitted to participate in games without the submission of the athletic fee. A refund check will be given to you if your child did not make the team. Students who quit after the first game or are placed on academic probation after the first game will not have the athletic fee refunded.

Behavior:

A student may be removed from a team and from further participation for serious or repeated behavior problems on or off the field. Such a student will be eligible to participate again only after the principal grants permission. Student athletes that are suspended are likewise suspended from all activities for the duration of the suspension.

Athletes who are removed from a team for academic or behavioral reasons will not be eligible for awards at the conclusion of the season.

* Note: The use of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs are against school policy as outlined in the CCA student handbook. Furthermore as an athlete, this abuse of the body is a danger to you on the field of competition. Athletes that violate the school policy on tobacco, alcohol and drugs will be immediately removed from the team. Reinstatement will occur with permission from the principal, AD and coach, only after a plan for abstinence has been written and agreed to.

Building Policy

The Calvary building policy is that all students are to leave the building by 3:15 unless supervised by a coach or teacher. A coach or supervising adult must be present with athletes at all times. After games or practices student-athletes should stay with coaches until picked up. Parents are expected to pick up their student within 10 minutes of the scheduled end of practice or game.

Code of Conduct for Athletes:

The athletic program of CCA is the most visible statement of the school to the outside community. Therefore the athletes must conduct themselves in a manner that represents Christ and the school. The following list is not meant to be inclusive of all concerns.

1. Support and respect the faculty, students, parents and property of CCA.
2. Never be abusive or disrespectful to officials, coaches, teammates, parents or visiting teams.
3. Demonstrate Christian sportsmanship to all visiting teams.
4. Play within the letter and spirit of the rule of the sport.
5. Never use profanity.
6. Always play to the best of your ability.
7. Cheer and support your teammates.

It is the expectation that student athletes at CCA would not be ejected from any contest. Ejection from a contest for unsportsman like behavior will result in a minimum of a one game suspension.

Student-athletes who receive two disciplinary penalties (yellow card, technical foul, unsportsmanlike conduct, etc.) throughout the year, will be required to meet with the Athletic Director and may be suspended for a game(s).

Dual Sport Athletes

Athletes who wish to participate in two sports in the same season must fill out a Dual Participation Form that is to be signed by the Athletic Director and the coaches for both teams. Student-athletes must declare one sport as his primary sport. The primary sport must take precedence over the secondary sport.

If a student-athlete participates in sports programs apart from school, he must also fill out a Dual Participation Form to be signed by the Athletic Director and the coaches for both teams before trying out for the CCA team. The sport the athlete plays for CCA must be his/her primary sport in order to participate

Dress Code for Athletes:

The dress code for Calvary athletics can be summed up in one word: modesty. Shorts, sweats and shirts must not be too short, too tight, or too loose. Modesty is mandatory. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be asked to change or will not be able to participate.

Injuries

Injuries are unfortunately a part of sports and cannot be prevented. It is expected that athletes make the trainer and/or coaches aware of any suspicion of injuries they may have incurred so that proper steps can take place. (Please see below regarding trainer). If a player maintains any major injury, then they must be cleared by a doctor before returning to the team.

Concussions are one of the hardest injuries to diagnose as it is unseen. It is required for all student athletes to have a baseline test in order to help diagnose if a concussion is suspected. Symptoms of concussions are headache or a feeling of pressure in the head, temporary loss of consciousness, confusion, amnesia surrounding the traumatic event, dizziness, ringing in the ears, nausea or vomiting, slurred speech, and fatigue. Athletes are expected to let coaches know if they are experiencing any of these symptoms. If a concussion is suspected they will not be permitted to participate in any athletic activity until cleared by a doctor.

If an injury is sustained during a season, it is expected that the student-athlete remain a part of the team and come to practices and games while injured, as to keep up with the team for when they return to action.

Practice and Contest Participation Policy:

Joining a team is a commitment! Should some event other than absence from school cause you to miss a practice or contest you should notify your coach in advance. This should be done in person when possible. Each coach will determine the specific guidelines for the team.

Excused absence from a team is understood to be any excused school absence or any absence pre-excused by the coach. All other absences from practice or contests will be considered unexcused. An unexcused absence from practice or contest will result in the athlete sitting out all or a portion of the next contest. Sitting out requires that the athlete be at the contest but may not participate. A second unexcused absence will require a meeting with the athletic director to determine if the athlete may remain with the team. A third unexcused absence will result in automatic removal from the team.

Lateness to practice may result in the athlete not starting or having playing time reduced. Repeated lateness will be handled in the same manner as unexcused absences.

CCA does have Saturday contests and contests that are played over school vacation periods. All athletes are expected to attend these contests. Season schedules are available at the beginning of each season.

Quitting a Team:

Quitting a team is discouraged. It is a practice that is detrimental to both the athlete and the team. Once an athlete has made it to the final roster, after any cuts, a commitment is established between the team and the athlete. When frustration, injury or disagreement begins to cause the athlete to consider quitting, the athlete is urged to go directly to the coach to resolve the issue. If an athlete plans to quit the team the coach may set up a meeting with the parents and player to try to further resolve the issue. The coach will encourage, counsel and pray with the athlete. Athletes that quit will exclude themselves from any awards or honors.

Athletes that have quit a sport in one season and want to return the next will be asked to sit down with the athletic director to examine the commitment that they are about to make.

School Attendance and Athletics:

Student athletes are to recognize that sports do not supersede the priority of academics. Athletes just like every other student need to be in school and in class. CCA maintains an academic policy that a student may have no more than 15 absences in a semester without having a conference with administration in order to receive credit for the course they are enrolled in.

If a student is declared to be on academic probation due to absences they likewise will be declared ineligible for athletics.

*Note: On the day of a scheduled athletic contest a student must be in school by **12:00 noon** in order to participate.

Note: When athletes have early dismissals from school in order to travel to games, **it is the student's responsibility to submit required work to the teacher that day and to find out about the next day's assignments.

Student Athletes: Interested in playing college sports (this should be done in your Jr. year)

Some things you need to have/do:

1. Make athletic department and coaches aware that you are interested in playing sports in college
2. Be registered with NCAA (see note below)
3. Apply and send transcripts to schools you are interested in pursuing.
4. Sports Resume/Profile on file at Athletic Office.
5. Reference letter(s) on file, it is your responsibility to ask the coach and/or teachers for this letter.
6. Contact coaches at schools you are interested in pursuing.
7. Game film (Good to have one full game and a highlight film)
 - a. It is the responsibility of the student and/or parent to have games filmed. Certain coaches do film games for review/scouting purposes. You may ask the coach or athletic department if you may borrow these films. You must provide us with a blank DVD if you would like your own copy

NCAA:

The NCAA has a policy for standards of eligibility to participate in Division 1 & Division 2 college athletics. This includes the creation of a clearinghouse through which an athlete must become certified. Each athlete must also complete the NCAA Clearinghouse form by the end of his or her junior year in order to gain certification. This can be done at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

SAT scores must also be sent to the clearinghouse. Designate the NCAA Clearinghouse as a recipient of your SAT scores.

Student Athletes Insurance Coverage:

Student athletes are covered by the school's insurance policy for the treatment of a bodily injury sustained while taking part in a school athletic activity as follows:

1. The first \$500 of medical expenses per accident is covered, plus
2. Payment of medical expenses in excessive amounts, which the student athlete is eligible to have paid by other medical plans.
3. The maximum medical expenses covered per accident are limited to \$5,000.

To be covered, claims must be filed with the insurance company within one (1) year of the accident.

Student Managers:

Each team is urged to find at least one student that will fulfill the task of being a manager. This is an invaluable person to the team. The manager will be responsible for gathering all of the equipment for practices and games. Each coach will determine the exact responsibilities for the manager. A manager will be listed on the team roster and must be academically eligible. **Managers are expected at all games!** A manager is to be the same sex as the team they serve. Managers may be considered for awards and honors at the conclusion of the season.

Team Rules:

Each team coach may write and distribute at the beginning of the season a list of rules and expectations that all teammates will follow. The minimum expectation is that all rules addressed in this handbook will be followed. Some coaches will establish with the consent of the AD, rules or policies that go beyond the stated school policy. The coach will handle violations of team rules. A coach, much like a teacher, will impose reasonable discipline to the athlete.

Team Try-Outs and Camps:

The first several days of each sport season will be designated as try-outs. At the conclusion of try-outs, cuts may take place and the roster is set. Once the roster is set there will not be other try-out times. Some sports may not have try-outs due to size. Most sports will have camps that precede a season. Pre-season practice for fall varsity sports will begin in August before school starts. Attendance at these camps will be stated as mandatory or voluntary. Missing a mandatory preseason camp will mean that a roster opening is not guaranteed to be available on the first day of practice.

Trainer:

CCA is pleased to be able to contract with ATI Physical Therapy to provide a sports trainer that is onsite for practices and games. Much of the trainer's work will be in exercising and wrapping the athlete to prevent further injury. This trainer will work with the coaches, parents, and primary doctors to determine the extent of injuries and whether an athlete should continue to play. Once the trainer has determined that a player is unfit to be in the game that decision will be final. Due to the trainer's association with a rehab center, there will be times that a recommendation is given to use a certain facility. That recommendation is not binding and is not the endorsement of CCA.

Traveling with the Team:

All athletes are required to travel to away contests with the team. Being a part of a team requires team travel. Students will not be granted permission to drive or travel with another student or even a parent. Situations where the athlete is leaving from an away contest with his/her parents will only be permitted after communication with the coach and/or athletic department.

Spectators will not be permitted on a team vehicle. School transportation is reserved for coaches, athletes and managers.

Students that have permission to drive to practice fields are never to take a teammate unless the parents of both have turned in a *Student Driver Permission Form*.

Uniform and Equipment Care:

Students are responsible for all equipment and uniforms that have been issued to them. Uniforms and warm-ups are never to be worn out of school and worn only to school when it has been pre approved by the AD and administration. The athlete will be responsible for damaged or lost equipment. The cost of actual replacement will be passed on to the student. Failure to pay will cause the loss of eligibility.

All uniforms and equipment are to be returned within three (3) school days of the end of the season. Uniforms are to be washed and placed into a bag with the name of the student placed on the bag so that there is easier accountability. Report cards or transcripts may be held until the uniform is returned. After-school detentions will also be given until uniforms are turned in.

CCA Athletic Awards

At the end of each school year all Varsity athletes are invited to attend our annual sports banquet. This event is held as a celebration of the achievements of the teams and student-athletes and a time of fellowship for all athletes, parents, and coaches. At the sports banquet four awards are given to players on each of the varsity teams as well as the four-year award.

Outstanding Achievement: *(recognizes talent, work ethic and commitment)*

This award is given to an athlete that throughout the course of the season has shown outstanding achievement in all aspects of the game. This athlete is motivated and highly skilled. This athlete's outstanding achievement is not only recognized by their coach but also by the PIAA Bicentennial League through their nomination to the league's All-Star Team.

Coach's Award: *(recognizes leadership, teachable attitude and positive testimony)*

This award is given to an athlete that is teachable in all aspects of the game. This person is a team player who values the success of the team above personal success. This athlete leads by example in both practices and competition. He/She gives 100% at both practices and games. They are supportive of coaches and game officials. This athlete also willingly goes above and beyond what the coach demands.

Sportsmanship Award: *(recognizes integrity, self control and Christ-like attitude)*

This award is given to the athlete that consistently displays integrity throughout a season of practice and competition. This integrity is demonstrated by a desire to play the game by the rules and in accordance to the spirit of the sport. Such an athlete has a strong competitive spirit yet is able to maintain self-control in all aspects of competition. He/She consistently displays a positive attitude towards coaches, opponents, officials, and fans. This athlete has a positive testimony for Christ and the school.

Scholar Athlete: *(recognizes discipline and high academic achievement)*

This award is given annually to the varsity athlete that has played at least two seasons during the school year and has maintained a 3.8 or above grade point average by the end of the third marking period.

Four Year Award: *(recognizes commitment and dedication)*

This award is given to the athlete that has played the same sport for all four years of high school.

Four Year, Three Season Award *(recognizes commitment, dedication, and sacrifice)*

This award is given to the athlete that has played a sport in every season of their high school career.