

Berean Baptist Academy

Athletic Manual 2020-2021

Philosophy

Berean Athletics enhances Berean Baptist Academy's mission by employing the unique platform of athletics to develop Christian character, a desire for excellence, and Christ-centered relationships. In providing opportunities for interscholastic competition, the athletic department seeks to reinforce that everything should be done to glorify God (I Cor. 10:31). In the context of athletic activity, the student is exposed to many spiritual concepts, including the importance of self-discipline (I Cor. 9:27), respect for others (Eph. 4:32), proper use of God-given abilities (Matt. 25:14-30), the pursuit of excellence (Col. 3:23), time management (Eph. 5:16) and submission to authority (Rom. 13:2). Ultimately, a Christian athletic program should produce an enhanced Christian character in the participant as well as the spectator.

Note from Administration

Thank you for being a part of the athletic program here at BBA. Athletics is a tool that can be used to teach life-long lessons and help develop a Christian lifestyle. It is the goal of Berean Baptist Academy that all our students, staff, and parents exemplify Christ-likeness in all that they do. The purpose of this manual is to maintain consistency and fairness for our athletic program.

Berean Baptist Academy requires athletes as well as parents to read and sign this manual. Knowing the school's expectations will help athletes strive to do their best and help parents to properly support the athletic program. Thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to working alongside you.

Daniel Knox, Athletic Director

Jack Farmer, Head of School

Athletic Opportunities

The following sports are offered at Berean Baptist Academy:

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross Country (Coed) (6 th -12 th)	Middle School Cheer	Varsity Golf (Coed) (6 th -12 th)
Middle School Boys Soccer	Varsity Cheer	Middle School Girls Soccer
Middle School Girls Volleyball	Middle School Girls Basketball	Varsity Girls Soccer
JV Girls Volleyball	Middle School Boys Basketball	Varsity Baseball
Varsity Boys Soccer	JV Boys Basketball	
Varsity Girls Volleyball	Varsity Girls Basketball	
	Varsity Boys Basketball	

Conference Affiliation

Berean Baptist Academy is a member of the North Carolina Christian School Association (NCCSA) and the Sandhills Eastern Middle School Athletic Association (SEMSAC).

NCCSA Teams (2019-2020) (2A)	
Alamance Christian School	Berean Baptist Academy
Bethel Christian Academy	Cramerton Christian Academy
Faith Christian Academy	Faith Christian School
Gospel Light Christian Academy	Greenville Christian Academy
Hilltop Christian School	Sheets Memorial Christian School
Raleigh Christian Academy	Union Grove Christian School
Tabernacle Christian School	Wilmington Christian Academy
Vandalia Christian School	Rockwell Christian School
Wilson Christian Academy	

SEMSAC Teams (2019-2020)	
Berean Baptist Academy	Freedom Christian Academy
Village Christian Academy	Liberty Christian Academy
St. Patrick's School	O'Neal School
Saint John Paul II	Fayetteville Christian School
Sandhills Classical Christian School	Cape Fear Christian Academy
Northwood Temple Academy	Fayetteville Academy

Athletic Department Objectives

1. Offer a well-balanced and diverse program of interscholastic athletics that complements BBA's total educational program and reflects the diversity of our student body.
2. Provide a Christian coaching staff characterized by the highest levels of professional instruction and supervision.
3. Establish mentoring relationships between coaches and athletes that last beyond the playing field.
4. Train students to view athletics and competition from a biblical perspective.
5. Model and encourage the development of self-discipline, a strong work ethic, self-sacrifice, loyalty, and pride in one's team.
6. Model and develop physical training and nutritional habits that not only increase the athlete's performance on the playing field, but also instill lifelong healthy behaviors.
7. Communicate the value of commitment, teamwork, and cooperation.
8. Cultivate a respect for authority, teammates, opponents, and the game itself.
9. Partner with the parents and community in helping their athlete reach his/her fullest potential.
10. Increase student and spectator interest and involvement in each sport.

Athlete Responsibilities

1. Follow all school, NCCSA and SEMSAC rules and standards.
2. Respect all decisions of coaches, teachers, parents, and administrators.
3. Respect official's judgments and decisions and abide by them.
4. Dress appropriately and neatly on all trips.
5. Turn in all issued athletic equipment immediately after the completion of a sports season.
6. Report all injuries, even minor ones, to a head coach or trainer without delay.

Coach Responsibilities

1. Must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and must be in complete agreement with Berean Baptist Academy's Mission Statement, Core Values, and Statement of Faith.
2. Must promote and enforce the Berean Athletic handbook and athlete code of conduct.
3. Must develop and demonstrate a good knowledge base of best practice specific to their coaching area.
4. Must model good sportsmanship to players, fans, and officials at all times.
5. Must maintain open and honest communication with students, parents, and other coaches.
6. Must provide an atmosphere of collaboration and teamwork among coaches and players.
7. Must create and maintain a safe and healthy environment for student athletes.
8. Must be a positive role model by being an integral part of the Berean community and understanding his/her leadership style and its impact on student athletes.
9. Must support and encourage student academic expectations, responsibilities, and achievements.

Parent Responsibilities

1. Model appropriate behavior, poise, and confidence to your student-athlete.
2. Attend the early season parent meeting.
3. View the game with team goals in mind.
4. Attempt to relieve pressure on your student-athlete, not increase it.
5. Encourage multi-sport participation.
6. Accept the judgment of officials and coaches; remain in control.
7. Demonstrate winning and losing with integrity. Be an encourager: encourage athletes to keep their perspective both in victory and defeat.
8. Serve at the athletic gate at least twice during each season.

Communication/Conflict Resolution Policy

1. Parent/Student to Coaches

- All concerns about teams must first be presented to the head coach by the parents, or if the player is mature enough, by the athlete himself. A respectful demeanor is required at all times. These concerns must not be brought up before or after a contest. These are emotional times for a parent and a coach and are not wise times to make an attempt toward a resolution of a problem. We request that an appointment is made with the coach to discuss any issues.
- If the problem is not resolved, the parent and/or student may bring the concern to the Athletic Director. If the student brings the concern, he/she must have permission from his parents to do so. Please use the same courtesies listed above when contacting the athletic director. The parent should attempt to resolve all issues with the coach and athletic director before utilizing the Head of School's open-door policy.
- A parent conference may be requested as needed.

2. Coaches to Parents

- Coaches should respond to parent telephone calls or email messages within 24-48 hours.
- A formal parent pre-season meeting is required after the roster has been finalized.
- Informal conferences should be arranged as needed.
- If a parent and coach cannot resolve a difficulty, the Athletic Director may be contacted.

These principles that we have chosen to follow are taken directly from Matthew 18:15-16. In no way should a parent attempt to undermine a coach's authority or decision making

Discipline

Each athlete is a representative of the ministry of BBA and must reflect a positive testimony in actions, behavior, and speech (1 Timothy 4:12). Coaches are employees of the school and carry out all school policies and standards of behavior for athletes as set forth by the administration. Disciplinary actions will be enforced for misconduct. Serious offenses are brought to the attention of the administration.

Due to the fact that BBA seeks to instill moral character into student athletes, student athletes who receive a school suspension may be put on probation from the team. On days of suspension, student athletes may not participate in their team's practice. If the suspension occurs on a game day, the student may not participate in the game that night.

Dress Code

Practices- BBA dress code should be followed for all practices.

Travel- Coaches reserve the right to have their team travel to games in either game day attire (*see below*) or their jersey.

Game Days- Cheerleaders may wear their uniform on game days. All other teams must follow the school dress code. Coaches may request that young men wear a shirt and tie.

Administration reserves the right to change the dress code if needed.

Rules for Eligibility

School Attendance/Discipline

Students involved in the athletic program must be in school by 12pm in order to participate in a game or practice that day. Exceptions to the rule would be for family days and doctor appointments.

A student accumulating **three** detentions from the beginning of each ball season shall miss one ball game. **Two** more detentions will suspend him/her from another ball game. Ball season begins on the first practice day of that sport. Detentions do not accumulate from semester to semester. A student accumulating **seven** detentions from the beginning of the ball season shall be off the team for the remainder of that season.

Practice/Game Attendance

Practices are a vital part of any team's success. If a practice needs to be cancelled due to weather or some other conflict, a notification will be communicated immediately to parents. If an athlete anticipates missing a practice or a game, prior notice should be given to the coach.

Players must be at every practice and game unless excused for one of the following reasons:

- Doctor or dental appointment
- Personal sickness
- Death in the family
- Previously scheduled church commitment
- Approved family day or college day

The coach should be notified if the player is going to miss a practice/game whether it is excused or unexcused.

If a player is injured, he/she is still part of the team. Therefore, they will be required to attend every game and practice.

If a player misses a practice/game for any other reason, the following disciplinary procedures will be followed:

- 1st infraction: ½ game suspension
- 2nd infraction: 2 game suspension
- 3rd infraction: 4 game suspension
- 4th infraction: dismissal from team

If a player quits the team or is suspended because of practice requirements, the player will not be able to participate in the next two sports. For example: If a player quits basketball, he/she will be unable to play a spring sport or next year's fall sport. We strongly believe the student is giving a commitment to the team and should remain with the team no matter the circumstance.

All coaches will announce their discipline procedures for being late. If a player is late three times to a practice or game, it will count as an absence.

Academics

Each athlete will be held to the same standard academically and must stay within the guidelines as stated below in order to remain eligible to participate on game days.

During the sports season, all athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA and may not have 59 or below in any class. Their GPA will be calculated as a cumulative GPA, starting with the athlete's first year of eligibility. Athletes who are already in Middle School or High School will have their cumulative GPA checked from 8/1/2019.

Grades will be checked twice per quarter; once during the middle of the quarter (4 and 1/2 week mark) and once at the end of the quarter (nine week mark). If an athlete has a GPA below 2.0 at the grade check or has a 59 or below in any class, that athlete will be placed on academic probation for one week. The athlete will not be able to participate in games or come to practices. At the end of the one-week time period, the athlete may return to the team **as soon as his or her GPA is at a 2.0 or he or she has no classes below 59**. If an athlete is placed on probation twice during the same season, that athlete will be removed from the team for the rest of that season. Every athlete will be able to try out for a team; regardless of GPA. However, every coach will be given a list of tryout participants who are below a 2.0 GPA. Coaches must decide whether grades will be an influencing factor in allowing an athlete to participate on their team. If an athlete makes a team and still has a GPA below 2.0, that athlete will not participate in games or matches until his or her GPA is above a 2.0. The athlete may still attend practices during this probation time. The AD will check the athlete's grades before each contest until it returns to a 2.0 GPA.

Physicals

All athletes participating in BBA athletics must have record of a current physical on file with the school office. **The physical is good for one year previous to the tryout date for the sport in which the athlete is participating. (Ex: Volleyball tryouts are on 8/5/2019; physical must be dated after 8/5/2018)**. An athlete will not be able to participate in any interscholastic games until a proper athletic physical is on file with the school office. Forms can be found on the school website under the admissions tab. Please turn in your completed form to the athletic office.

Probations/Suspensions

During academic ineligibility or school suspension, the following guidelines will be observed:

1. The student will not be allowed to dress out or participate in any games or scrimmages.
2. The student will not be allowed to attend team practices.
3. The student will attend and sit on the bench at home games.
4. The student will not travel with the team for away games.

Transportation

Games

All athletes *must* travel with the team to all away games. A school-owned or school-rented vehicle will be provided for travel to and from all away games. A team member may ride home with his parent(s) or legal guardian provided that the coach is informed by written or verbal communication prior to leaving. A student may leave the game with another student's family **only** if written permission has been given by his parent or legal guardian and by those with whom he will be riding. Students will not be allowed to leave the game with just another student. There must be an adult present.

Travel Agreement

During the athletic season at BBA, there will be many events in which the team members of the soccer, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, and baseball teams will be travelling via church or school vehicle to practice fields and rival schools for competition. It is the school's policy to obtain permission from the individual player's parents or guardians in order to transport him off the school property and to a specific location for a sporting event or practice. All drivers for the events are certified with a current CDL license, and the head coach for the team will travel in the same vehicle as the team.

Miscellaneous

Concessions Help

Parents of our athletes are expected to help at least twice in the concession area or taking admission during the season. A signup sheet will be sent out by email at the beginning of each season.

Facilities

Extreme care and caution should be taken in the use of facilities that have been provided for students at BBA. Each player is responsible to ensure that every field and court (both home and away) is left in the condition in which it was found. No player will be permitted to leave without first receiving permission from the coach. Any athlete defacing or destroying property will be disciplined according to school policy. Activities by teams should be limited to the area specifically designated for the team's use. All other areas are off limits.

Medical Release

It is the policy of the school to obtain a medical release which would authorize the school to allow a physician or emergency medical personnel to treat a student in need of medical attention. Be advised, this is not a waiver enabling a student to take prescription medication or permitting a school staff member to administer prescription medication. Please contact the athletic director for a medical administration form.

Team Involvement

As the athletic program continues to expand and enhance, it is required that a student not participate in more than one sport or team per season without prior administrative approval. This policy helps to avoid conflicting events such as practices and games between those sports.

Uniforms/Equipment

The school has made a significant investment into the uniforms that each athlete wears. With this in mind, each uniform must be washed after each game and be well taken care of each season. The athletic director and coaches will inventory each item loaned to the athlete, and each athlete will be held accountable for the individual cost of those items. Each uniform must be returned washed (per uniform instructions) and in its entirety in a plastic bag with the athlete's name 7 days after the last game of the season. Uniforms will not be accepted otherwise.

If a uniform is not returned on time, the replacement cost of the uniform will be added to the student's school bill. Once the uniform is returned in its proper condition, the fee will be removed from the student's account. If a student loses any part of the uniform or returns it damaged, the athlete will be responsible to pay for the replacement cost.

Athletic equipment can go home with the coach but not an athlete. Under no circumstances will equipment be checked out to athletes for personal or home use.

Athletic Manual Compliance Form

This form is to be completed and returned to the Athletic Director before an athlete may participate in his first sport (prior to the first game) of the year. Please return this page to the athletic office.

I have read and understand the rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth by the school in the athletic manual. I agree to abide by these rules, regulations, and guidelines and support the coaches, athletic director, and administration of Berean Baptist Academy.

I also give consent for my son/daughter to represent Berean Baptist Academy in interscholastic sports during the _____ school year. I also give consent for him/her to accompany the team/squad as a member on its out of town trips. I will not hold Berean Baptist Academy responsible in case of accident or injury, whether caused by actual participation in the sport activity or as a result of vehicular accident traveling to or from the team/squad activity.

I hereby give my consent and authorize Berean Baptist Academy and its representatives to obtain such medical care and attention as are reasonably necessary for the welfare of the student should he/she be injured in the course of school or camp athletic activities.

Athlete's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____

Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Athletic Director's Signature: _____

Please attach Medical Release form to this document.

Date of Medical Release form: _____

Notes/Comments: _____
