



PARTICIPATION AND SPORTSMANSHIP LETTER 2017-2018

From: John Kelly, Athletic Director
Edwin Samson, Athletic Director
Sr. Jane Feltz, Principal

To: All-Prospective participants and their families:

It is time, once again, to start a new season at GSA. We have had much success in the past and look forward to continuing with the same. This permission slip will pertain to all three seasonal sports programs so there is a need to sign a form for each sport your child participates in this school year. Any fees for a particular sport will be collected at the beginning of each sports season.

In order to ensure that everyone enjoys the upcoming season equally, we are mandating that all participants abide by the simple doctrine of good sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship by all on and off the court.

Volleyball and Basketball

Coverage is needed for concession, the door (admission), the fifty-fifty raffles, setup, line-judging (only in volleyball) and clean up.

Each player must have a high school age or older individual (i.e. parent, grand-parent, aunt, uncle, sister, or brother) on a rotating basis, help out at the games. If someone cannot represent the player for helping out during some of the games, on a rotating basis, then the player will not play on the team. This does not mean a game suspension. It means removal from the team. A schedule will be made up at the beginning of the season. You must sign up for games at the beginning of the season on an equal cycling basis. Time slots can obviously be swapped/changed with other families. You will be given the schedule as a reminder of your game coverage. **If you anticipate that this will be a problem or simply don't wish to help, then the player should not try out for the prospective team.**

We are also mandating that all "work" that is done by the parents during the home games and Christmas tournament games be shared equally.

Help will be needed during the home games and the Christmas Tournament games (if we have one). This tournament is for boys/girls 5th & 6th and 7th & 8th grade basketball teams. There will be teams playing in each division. Coverage will be needed for games not only when GSA teams play but when they do not play. Every player and cheerleader family is expected to help.

All Sports

On the note of school spirit: We have formally placed into writing a **doctrine on school spirit and sportsmanship** that should not have to be spoken of or told to participants. Maybe, and wrongly so, it is a doctrine that we may have thought understood and followed but never formally told. This must be strictly adhered to with zero tolerance, which means no exceptions.

At Good Shepherd Academy we are supposed to be a community/family of one, working together to support and nurture our family. The participants of our GSA Sports Program have a duty to set a high standard of behavior for themselves and for other students to follow. Behavior such as: fighting, negative cheering, taunting etc., will not be tolerated. Players and fans under no circumstances are to address referees, other players or coaches in any negative way whatsoever.

We will support, get along with, and be respectful of, each other, on and off, the playing fields and courts. We will also adhere to this policy in the classroom, outside of the classroom, on school property and off school property. If there is anything done that deviates from this policy, we will, deal with it swiftly and with, at the very least, a suspension from the team. This policy goes for basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball and cheerleading participants. This policy will stand during the particular season and after the season, during the school year and during the summer.

You represent this school, parish and community. If you cannot abide by this simple doctrine of team unity and support for each other then, quite simply, you cannot participate in GSA sports.

The players and cheerleading participants are **responsible for contacting their respective** coaches if they are going to miss a practice or game. If you miss a practice or game, it is your responsibility to find out the next practice or game. The schedules can sometimes change one day to the next, so you must check if there is a change. The schedules will be given out and posted on the web site. We will be communicating with e-mail. That means you should check your e-mail daily.

Playing time- Because of the success and the enjoyment that the children have had, we usually have a good turnout for tryouts. We are supposed to have 12 players on each team. In the past, we found it extremely difficult to cut the numbers of children participating on each team down to twelve. Many are quite equal. Therefore, we sometimes place additional players on each team. This allows these additional players to practice, play and develop their potential while being on the team. We participate in a highly structured competitive league. Unfortunately, that means we cannot guarantee equal playing time in all the games for all of the players, even if we have only twelve on a team. Players are encouraged to join town recreational teams. This will guarantee players quality practice and instruction with a GSA team and at minimal, playing time with a town team.

We will discuss a fair and systematic approach to getting players game time play by evaluating ability, practice attendance, attitude and proper sportsmanship. Playing time is discussed and planned by all of the coaches on each team.

For cheerleading, a document will be handed out pertaining to rules and what is expected of the girls so that there are no surprises or misunderstandings.

Academic Standards. Players in each sport must maintain an average of “C” in all subjects and a “satisfactory” in all areas of personal development.

Health Insurance: During the school year we are covered by the GSA/Newark Archdiocese for sports related injuries. There has been a question raised about coverage during the summer, therefore, if you are playing on a summer league team you must carry your own health insurance.

Making Complaints: If there is a complaint of any kind regarding players, cheerleaders, coaches, referees from our school or other schools, it is to be directed using the proper line of communication. The line of communication is first the GSA coach, then the GSA athletic director. If the complaint is about the GSA athletic director, then it is to go to the principal. Not following these proper lines of communication will result in a suspension or removal from the team.

Physicals: Be aware that all participants are required to present documents of a physical within the last year before the beginning of the season. Attached is a physical evaluation form to be completed by the examining physician/provider. This evaluation form will pertain to all three seasonal sports programs so there is only a need to complete this form once.

Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer and Cheerleading uniforms must be returned to the coach in a zip-lock bag within one week of the season conclusion.

Internet and Digital Communications: The sportsmanship and previously mentioned standards of behavior also pertain to the digital world of communication such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, email, texting etc. Negative communications or “posts” will not be tolerated by players or family members. There will be no public forums, displays or disrespect of the GSA Sports program or School. The lines of communication for complaints and other issues have been noted above.

Lastly, there are “**house rules**”. No players or fans are to be in the hallways and or the teachers’ room and there is to be no ball playing or excessive noise in the hallways or outside the school during and after games or practices. Everyone, including family and friends **are not** to bring any balls to any games.

In closing, the emphasis of the GSA sports program is to focus on the development of the child as a Christian athlete, to instill in the children sportsmanship, team unity and self-esteem, all achieved while having FUN.

Participation fee this year is \$65 per sport due during registration. Each family must sign up for at least three (3) games to assist with concession, line judge, set-up and clean-up and/or additional jobs as deemed necessary by the Athletics Director, Treasurer and/or Coach. Players/Cheerleaders will not participate at any games without the participation fee paid in full and a completed signed Medical Evaluation form for the school year.

GOOD SHEPHERD ACADEMY
REGISTRATION/PARTICIPATION FORM
2017-2018

(To be completed for each sport your child will participate in)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SOCCER 4 th thru 8 th (Co-Ed) | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLLEYBALL 5 th thru 8 th (Co-Ed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JV CHEERLEADING 2 nd - 4 th GRADE | <input type="checkbox"/> VARSITY CHEERLEADING 5 th - 8 th GRADE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIRLS BASKETBALL – 3 TH / 4 TH GRADE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOYS BASKETBALL – 3 TH / 4 TH GRADE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIRLS BASKETBALL – 5 TH / 6 TH GRADE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOYS BASKETBALL – 5 TH / 6 TH GRADE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIRLS BASKETBALL – 7 TH / 8 TH GRADE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOYS BASKETBALL – 7 TH / 8 TH GRADE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SOFTBALL – 5 th - 8 th (girls only) | <input type="checkbox"/> CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHESS | |

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME of STUDENT _____
Last First

Date of Birth _____ Grade _____ Height _____

Street Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Mother's Name _____ Father's Name: _____

Mother's Work Phone _____ Father's Work Phone _____

Mother's Cell Phone _____ Father's Cell Phone _____

Mother's E-Mail _____ Father's E-Mail _____

I / we the parents of the above named candidate hereby give my/our approval for our child, to tryout and participate in any in any and all Good Shepherd activities and/or sports. I/we assume all risks and hazards incidental to such participation including transportation to and from activities/sporting events. I/we do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless Good Shepherd Academy, Holy Family Church, St. Mary's Church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, the organizer, sponsors, supervisors, participants and persons transporting my/our child to and from activities, for any claim arising out of an injury to my/our child, whether the result of negligence or for any other reason or cause, except to the extent and the amount covered by accident or liability insurance.

I /we the parents have read the preceding three pages of the participation and sportsmanship letter and agree the terms.

Mother's /Guardian Signature _____

Father's /Guardian Signature _____

Fee: \$65.00 Check# _____ or Cash _____

Medical Treatment Authorization Form

As a parent and/or guardian of _____, a minor, I hereby authorize the treatment by a qualified and licensed medical doctor in the event of a medical emergency which, in the opinion of the attending physician, may endanger my child's life, cause disfigurement, physical impairment or undue discomfort if delayed. This authority is granted only after a reasonable effort has been made to reach me.

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone #: () _____ - _____

Home Phone #: () _____ - _____

Family Physician: _____ Phone #: () _____ - _____

Dates during which release is granted: From _____ To _____

Indicate specific medical allergies, chronic illnesses, or other medical conditions that coaches and medical personnel should be aware of:

Other person to contact in case of emergency: _____

Relationship to child _____

Cell Phone #: () _____ - _____

Home Phone #: () _____ - _____

This release form is completed and signed of my own free will for the sole purpose of authorizing medical treatment under emergency circumstances in my absence.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Keep this form on file in your first aid kit for each athlete

The Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. Clinic
Sports Awareness For Educating Today's Youth™