



WHITEFIELD
ACADEMY

Athletic Handbook

2021-2022

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Athletic Handbook

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Purpose

The intent of this handbook is to present guidelines to be adhered to by students, parents, coaches, and fans. As new situations or changing circumstances develop, that are not referred to specifically in this handbook, the school administration reserves the right to interpret or amend any policy or procedure at any time by its sole discretion.

Philosophy

MISSION STATEMENT

In accordance with the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Values of Whitefield Academy (as found in the student handbook), the athletic program is a vital part of the total educational program existing to pursue athletic proficiency. Whitefield Academy Athletics is committed to the development of Christian, student-athletes, meeting the needs of students as they grow intellectually, physically and spiritually. Students enjoy athletic opportunities as they learn skills and habits of physical activity that contribute to lifelong vitality.

DISCIPLESHIP

Coaches, parents, and students will work together to maintain a discipleship emphasis among team members and to demonstrate that emphasis both within the school community and the surrounding communities.

PARTICIPATION

The athletic program emphasizes fundamentals of sportsmanship and athletic skill that relate to team spirit, confidence and enjoyment of team activities and relationships. Participation in athletics at Whitefield Academy is a privilege (not a right) and is open to all students, contingent upon their meeting the criteria of academics, character, and athletic skill. All teams at Whitefield Academy are expected to do their best in the true spirit of competition.

COMPETITION

Whitefield Academy coaches are committed to teaching Christ-honoring character traits and habits. In order to develop and foster teamwork, unity, honesty and integrity, they teach and guide with respect to create a Christ-centered learning environment. As David Prince write in *In the Arena*,

The desire to win and receive the prize in athletic competition is the very thing Paul Latches onto as a transferable concept for cultivating a single-minded focus on the Advance of the gospel. There are eternal winners and losers, and we are to count the cost, take up our cross, and follow him because we know what is at stake. Our task demands courageous, self-sacrificial Great Commission gospel warriors. At its best, athletics provide Christian parents and coaches a limited but genuine theater for the examination and cultivation of Christ-honoring characteristics.

We will make every effort to balance the developmental needs of each player and the desire to compete at the highest level. We will play every game/match/event to win with integrity and honesty. Most importantly, we will respond to winning or losing with the grace, peace and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

SPECIALIZATION

The Athletic Department is philosophically opposed to sport specialization. We encourage student athletes to play as many sports as they can. Each sport will enhance their overall athletic ability and help them to improve in their best sport. If the student athlete is feeling pressured by coaches to play only one sport or being pressured to play an out of season sport, please see the athletic director or principal.

Covenant Expectations

Students, parents, coaches, and fans are to demonstrate Christian principles in all circumstances. It is expected that everyone associated with Whitefield Academy athletics will support and encourage our players as well as one another. We cheer for Whitefield Academy and not against the other teams.

Our student-athletes are expected to try their very best and to have an appropriate Christian attitude at all times. They are expected to behave in a Christ-like manner at school, at home, and on the playing field. They are expected to be champions for Christ and positive role models to their peers and siblings.

Coaches, players, parents and fans represent Jesus Christ and Whitefield Academy to the other teams. People are watching to see if we ARE different. God's people have a responsibility to witness at all times. Athletics is a great platform for impacting the culture for Christ. We must be gracious in victory and defeat and model behavior that exemplifies Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior at all times.

For Athletes

1. IN SCHOOL:
 - a. Be thoughtful to those around you.
 - b. Be the person to do things the right way.
 - c. Be a role model; follow all rules as described in the Whitefield Academy student handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, guidelines on the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; involvement in sexual misconduct; possession of weapons; activities that could be deemed as hazing; and all other conduct expected of a Whitefield Academy student in and out of school activities.
 - d. Meet all academic expectations, be in class on time; abide by class rules.

2. IN THE COMMUNITY:
 - a. Serve others.
 - b. Be positive about the school and athletic programs.
 - c. Get involved to help exhibit the school and department mission.
 - d. Exhibit a self-image that both shows and earns respect.

3. IN PRACTICE:

- a. Support and encourage.
- b. Motivate others, teach others, support others.
- c. Lead by example
- d. Practice hard at all times. Get better every day.
- e. Be a reliable teammate, showing commitment to the team. Athletes are expected to attend every practice and contest, unless excused by their coach. Student athletes who cannot commit to the team schedule risk having consequences imposed on them from their coach that may include decreased playing time and suspension from game(s). Please keep in mind that school teams take priority over other outside teams/leagues with which student athletes may be involved. In some cases, KHSAA rules prohibit involvement in outside leagues at the high school level. Please consult your coach before such involvement.

4. IN GAMES:

- a. Treat each team with respect; win and lose with class.
- b. Lead by example; stay positive and supportive.
- c. Set an example of Christian sportsmanship.
- d. Play HARD; Play SMART; Play FAIR; Play to WIN; Have FUN; Keep PERSPECTIVE.

For Parents

1) IN SCHOOL:

- a. Monitor and support needs for athlete's academic success.
- b. Hold athlete accountable for attendance and academic progress.
- c. Maintain high standards for athlete outside of the playing arena.
- d. Ensure athlete honors school and department guidelines.

2) IN THE COMMUNITY:

- a. Accept role as parent in programs; assisting with team events.
- b. Be a role model and positive advocate for coach and team.
- c. Attend and support other athletic events and encourage community support.
- d. Promote and support the athletic family, celebrating successes of the group.

3) IN PRACTICE:

- a. Converse with athletes on their expectations, goals, and how to achieve them.
- b. Hold athlete accountable to attend, persevere, and complete.
- c. Understand and support the commitment that is needed in order to participate in interscholastic athletics. This includes the scheduling of family vacations within the athletic season. Please note that in some sports, practices and games may take place during breaks in the school calendar. When student-athletes miss practice and game time, it affects team chemistry, personal conditioning, the performance level of the individual, and the overall performance of the team. Promote and support the athletic family.
- d. Hold athletes accountable for following team rules.
- e. Respect the coaches' time and commitments by being prompt in picking up children from practices and competitions. If your child is among the last picked up, assist the coach in making sure they are not left with just one student-athlete by themselves.

4) IN GAMES:

- a. Support athlete while respecting authority of leadership. During the course of the year, occasional misunderstandings or problems may arise between a coach and student, parent and coach, etc. This is often a lack of communication between those involved. The school's policy for dealing with these situations is encompassed within the Matthew 18 principle as described in the student handbook. Players and parents should first make their concern known to the coach prior to contacting administration. Please note that coaches are advised NOT to address playing time (of your child or other student-athletes) as a concern. Appropriate issues to discuss include the physical and mental treatment of your child, ways to help your child improve, and concerns about your child's academics or behavior. *Parents should be aware of the damage that can be done to the athletic program and the individuals within the athletic program due to inappropriate use of social media.*
- b. Be positive and cheer for all athletes. Refrain from negative comments/dialogue.
- c. Encourage your athlete before, during, and after competition. Celebrate progress, make sports fun, and listen. Refrain from coaching from the stands.
- d. Set an example by abiding by state and school guidelines regarding sportsmanship, facilities, and protocols. Be good stewards of the resources we have been entrusted with by keeping facilities safe, clean, tobacco-free, and restricted to appropriate areas.
- e. Serve the athletic program by assisting with concession stands, gate collection, clean-up after events, and other needs as seen.

Modeling Christian Sportsmanship

During competition, parents (and all fans) should model Christian sportsmanship by:

- *Remaining in spectator areas during competition.
- *Not yelling instructions or criticisms to the children.
- *Making no derogatory comments to players, other parents, or fans, officials, or administrators.
- *Not interfering with your child's coach.
- *Being willing to let the coach be responsible for your child during the duration of the contest.
- *If necessary, reminding those around you of the rules.
- *Providing unconditional love, acceptance, and emotional support for your child, regardless of the game's outcome.

Note that the KHSAA now has a policy where fans can be suspended from attending games if they are asked to leave a competition by game officials.

Empowering Your Athlete (David Prince, *In the Arena*)

Recommended comments to empower your student-athlete:

Before competition

- *Enjoy the opportunity to compete.
- *Play in a self-sacrificial way.
- *When you make a mistake, respond by cheering all the harder for your teammates.
- *When your teammate makes a mistake, encourage them.
- *Honor the officials by showing respect and thanking them after the game.
- *Cheer as hard on the bench as you would if you were in the game.
- *I love you.

After competition

- *What did you learn about yourself?
- *Did you compete to the absolute best of your ability with no regrets about your effort?
- *In what ways did you sacrifice for your team?
- *How did you respond when you failed?
- *Were you others-centered?
- *Did you honor your coaches and the officials?
- *I love you.
- *I love to watch you play and to see you learn, through competing, about living for Christ.

Governing Bodies

Whitefield Academy is a member of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) which abides by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS). State by-laws and guidelines can be found on-line at www.khsaa.org. Whitefield Academy is also a participant in the Kentucky Christian Athletic Conference (KCAC).

Eligibility to Play / Practice

Whitefield Academy will follow guidelines of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. In addition, all student-athletes will follow the guidelines set forth in the Whitefield Academy Parent/Student Handbook. The eligibility rule requires high school students to maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) in the current semester. Students may not be failing more than one class. Students in middle and elementary school must maintain a C average in core classes. Students may not be failing more than one class. Eligibility is checked weekly on a cumulative basis (semester for HS; year for MS/Elem). Students declared ineligible for the week (Monday-Sunday) may not participate in competition. However, the first week of ineligibility will be considered a probationary week where students may continue practices with agreement of parents and coach.

On the day of a school-sponsored athletic event, high school students must attend four full periods in order to be eligible to participate. Middle school students who are not present for the entire school day must get approval from the high school principal in order to participate in a school-sponsored athletic event.

A current sports physical and athletic waiver form must be on file in the athletic office in order for a student to participate in a school-sponsored athletic event (including practices). Physical exams are good for one year from the date of the doctor's signature. Waiver forms are required for each sport played in a school year.

Athletic fees help to cover a small portion of the costs of logistics to field a wide variety of sports. Fees are per student/per sport. This year's fee will be:

Elementary (3rd-5th) students: \$50/sport

Middle School (6th-8th) students: \$55/sport

High School (9th-12th) students: \$60/sport

The family maximum fee is \$250.

Athletic fees are non-refundable two weeks following the start of official practice for that sport.

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST:

- ___ School Enrollment
- ___ Academic Eligibility (progress towards graduation)
- ___ Sports Physical Examination current
- ___ Waiver and Responsibility Form
- ___ Attendance at Parent Athletic Orientation
 - *Attendance fulfills requirement for two years
- ___ Athletic Fee

Athletic Team Opportunities

FALL SPORTS	Var	JV	MS	ELEM
Boys Cross Country	X		X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)
Girls Cross Country	X		X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)
Boys Golf	X	X		(may include 7 th -8 th grade)
Girls Golf	X			(may include 7 th -8 th grade)
Boys Soccer	X	X	X	X (3 rd /4 th grade co-ed)
Girls Soccer	X	X*		X (3 rd /4 th grade co-ed)
Girls Volleyball	X	X	X	(5 th grade with MS)

WINTER SPORTS	Var	JV	MS	ELEM
Boys Basketball	X	X	X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)
Girls Basketball	X	X	X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)
Bowling	X			(may include 7 th -8 th grade)
Cheerleading	X		X	
Boys Swimming	X		X	(MS 5 th -8 th ; HS 9 th -12 th *)
Girls Swimming	X		X	(MS 5 th -8 th ; HS 9 th -12 th *)

SPRING SPORTS	Var	JV	MS	ELEM
Archery	X		X	X (starting in 4 th grade)
Boys Baseball	X		X	X (starting in 4 th grade)
Girls Soccer			X	5 th grade with MS
Girls Softball	X		X	5 th grade with MS
Boys Tennis	X			(may include 7 th -8 th grade)
Girls Tennis	X			(may include 7 th -8 th grade)
Boys Track and Field	X		X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)
Girls Track and Field	X		X	X (starting in 3 rd grade)

Please Note:

In non-contact sports where there is no team offered at a middle school level, 7th/8th grade students are typically allowed to tryout for the high school team.

All sports will be offered pending number of students signed-up. Other levels of teams (JV, 9th, etc.) could also be added should there be enough demand to field a team.

Team / Player Selection

- 1) All teams shall have a designated tryout period to be determined by the head coach.
- 2) Academically eligible students will be selected based on attitude, effort, and talent. The number of players on a team will be large enough to form a strong competitive team, but not so large as to deter from the individual attention of each player.
- 3) In sports in which a middle school team is offered, middle school students may try out for the high school teams only when the coach and athletic director decides that it is in the best interest of the student AND Whitefield Academy athletics. Middle school athletes that are selected to play up on the high school team are still expected to practice and compete at the middle school level. An exception may be considered after discussion among coaches, parents, and administration if that athlete is anticipated to be utilized for significant amounts of Varsity play. Middle School students are not allowed to participate in Varsity soccer per KHSAA rules.
- 4) Players that are participating in an on-going sport when tryouts are held, will be given time for a tryout that does not interfere with the on-going season. It is the responsibility of the coaches to work together to determine the best time to evaluate such players.
- 5) On teams where tryouts are held and cuts are made, coaches will provide a written evaluation form to all players who tryout.
- 6) Suspension/Dismissal: Each coach will have the authority, with the concurrence of the Athletic Director, to suspend or place on probation for an extended period of time, any student-athlete for major or minor infractions of rules for that team.

Any student suspended from athletics must be given:

1. The reason(s) for the suspension.
2. The time and provisions of the suspension.
3. The procedures for reentering the program.
4. The opportunity to appeal.

A written explanation for the suspension must be given to the suspended athlete, his/her parents, and the Athletic Director prior to the start of that suspension. Appeals to a suspension or dismissal should first be made to the head coach. Following this step, a meeting may be requested with the student-athlete, parent(s), head coach and Athletic Director. Appeals to the school level principal or Head of School will only be heard in cases of dismissal from a team.

Competition and Practices

DEVELOPMENT VS COMPETITIVE

At the Middle School level, learning the process of winning through fundamental skill development, participation, social development and team spirit will be the primary focus while competing in athletics.

At the JV level, participation, skill and social development, team spirit and a greater focus on competition will be the primary focus.

At the Varsity level, skill refinement and excellence along with team spirit and competing at the highest level will be the primary focus.

While coaches, especially at younger age levels, will attempt to balance the development of skill and competitive nature, there is no guaranteed playing time at any level of Whitefield athletics.

MISSED COMPETITIONS

Players who miss a scheduled competition for non-emergency reasons (i.e. illness) or prior permission from the coach with confirmation from the athletic director may be asked to pay a fee to compensate the school for costs associated with the competition (entry fees, officials fees, facility fees, etc.).

PRACTICE IN INCLEMENT WEATHER:

In the event that school is dismissed early due to a weather event, all extra-curricular events (practices, games, etc.) will also be cancelled.

If school is called off before the start of the day, roads will be re-evaluated late morning or early afternoon. If conditions are deemed safe, coaches may be allowed to practice. Parents have the ultimate decision on attendance—especially in regards to student drivers and those that live in outlying areas with untreated roads.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

Players who miss school are not allowed to attend practices or games as part of the team. Exceptions may be made by school administration in some situations, but should be confirmed prior to the absence (i.e. college visits, funerals).

PRACTICE TIMES:

Practice times will be posted by the athletic department in conjunction with the coaches. Due to limited time and facilities, practices may be held at off-campus sites for any sport.

Practice (including conditioning, meeting time, etc.) is not to extend beyond a 2 ½ hour time period on school nights.

Practices on Wednesdays will be complete by 5:00 PM when Highview Baptist Church is in session. On nights when Wednesday evening practices are allowed, those who attend other churches should communicate with the coaching staff to be excused from practice. Games will not be held on Wednesdays with the exception of tournament play where Whitefield Academy does not control the scheduling.

Games and practices will not be held on Sundays, with the exception of KHSAA or All A Classic Championship play.

Game Schedules

Game schedules will be published prior to the start of every season. Changes will occur from time to time; however, we will try to avoid changing games, and we will make every effort to keep parents and players informed of all changes as soon as possible. You can also keep track of Whitefield Athletics on Facebook at Whitefield Athletics, Twitter at WA_Wildcats, and Instagram at whitefieldathletics.

Game Travel / Transportation

Team members are required to ride on Whitefield Academy provided transportation to and from all competitions unless otherwise specified by the coach and athletic director. When leaving from school, student-athletes may not ride with other student drivers to practices and competitions. Parents may drive other student athletes providing they have filed a Transportation Release Form with the Athletic Department.

Sports and Health Issues

- 1) The KHSAA and Whitefield Academy mandate that all athletes must be given a physical examination prior to their participation in athletics. The official KHSAA medical form must be on file in the athletic office prior to participation in practices or games. If students should miss games due to significant illness or injury, a clearance for the student-athlete to return to action should also be filed in the office.
- 2) Whitefield Academy coaches are certified in CPR and First Aid and are supplied with a first aid kit. All high school coaches must participate in the KHSAA Sports Safety Course and Medical Symposium.
- 3) Head Injuries: With the increased documentation of the impact of head injuries, we must take caution with any suspected concussion. Head injuries may occur in a number of ways: contact with another player, contact with the ground or equipment, or a sudden movement or rotation of the head without a force. Mild head injuries may result in dizziness, headache, nausea, blurry vision, and/or a loss of memory and/or brain function. Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion by a trainer, coach, official, or school administrator MUST receive doctor's clearance (on the required KHSAA form) to begin concussion protocol prior to returning to athletic participation. This does not mean that the athlete will return to competition the day of doctor's clearance.
- 4) Mouthpieces are encourage for athletes participating in sports where contact to the mouth or head may be common---especially recommended for those with braces.

- 5) Nutrition Suggestions:
 - *Eat more complex carbohydrates
 - *Eat moderate amounts of protein
 - *Eat less high fat-foods.
 - *Stay hydrated, especially in hot weather. Water is best!
 - *Maintain a healthy body composition
 - *Eat an appropriate pre-competition meal.
 - *Don't be tempted by nutritional supplements or other supposed "performance enhancers".
 - *Avoid caffeine and dairy prior to participation

- 6) Safety concerns for male athletes: Male athletes are to wear an athletic supporter for any sport involving strenuous activity and a protective cup for sports where deemed necessary. Since there is a potential for serious injury without wearing this protection, it is important for parents to reinforce this safety concern and make certain that the athlete has this protection available and wears them at practices and contests.

- 7) Safety concerns for female athletes: While most female athletes experience significant health benefits from athletic participation, under certain circumstances, some active females experience the detrimental effects of a condition known as the Female Athlete Triad. The triad acknowledges the interrelated nature of disordered eating, amenorrhea, and osteoporosis. The American College of Sports Medicine believes the Triad exists not only in elite athletes, but also in physically active girls and women who participate in a wide range of sports and other physical activities. Females who are found to have one component of the triad should be screened for the other two.

- 8) Anabolic steroids and other unauthorized supplements are prohibited.

- 9) Heat alert policy: teams involved in fall and spring sports are bound by the KHSAA Heat Index standards. Recordings will be made at every practice and competition. A heat index of 95 degrees will initiate a mandated protocol in an effort to prevent heat-associated ailments. All outdoor activity must cease with a heat-index reading of 105 degrees.

- 10) Hygiene: Proper precautions are needed minimize the potential risk of the spread of communicable disease and skin infections during athletic competition. These conditions may occur due to skin contact with competitors and equipment. The NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee recommends the following Universal Hygiene Protocol for All Sports: 1) Shower immediately after every competition and practice; 2) Wash all workout clothing after each practice; 3) Wash personal gear (knee pads and braces) weekly; 4) Do not share towels or personal hygiene products (razors) with others.

- 11) Injury report forms: Should an athlete be injured during practice or competition, it is the responsibility of the coach to complete an injury report form to be submitted to the school health office. Parents are encouraged to confirm with the coach that this form has been completed. Should further medical attention be needed, it is the parent's responsibility to contact the school financial office within 90 days of the injury for a copy of the report. This is for secondary insurance purposes only.

Uniforms

School team uniforms will be distributed at the beginning of the season. The coaches are responsible for distributing and collecting team uniforms. It is the responsibility of the player to:

1. Take proper care of the uniform. Unless otherwise instructed, all uniforms should be washed in cold water and line dried.
2. Have uniform ready for games.
3. Keep uniform tops tucked in before, during, and after competition practice.
4. Not wear items for practice or competition that are not considered part of the uniform. The goal of the uniform is unity. With that in mind, we expect our athletes to dress in such a way as to promote unity over individuality.
5. To clean and return uniforms after the season.
6. To pay for the cost of any uniform he/she loses.
7. To purchase portions of uniforms that may not be school-purchased (i.e. socks, warm-ups, other practice and game gear). Items purchased for a season will be kept by that athlete at the end of the season.
8. Unless permission is granted by the athletic department, uniforms are not to be worn other than in competition.
9. In sports where a changing room is available, the coach will make a determination of a neat, team-oriented dress code for before and after games. Game uniforms should not be worn to and from games when changing room facilities are available.
10. Coaches will determine a dress code for practices based upon school standards. When practice uniforms are available, they should be used for all practices.

Fundraising

Whitefield Academy student-athletes and their families are expected to participate in the athletic program fundraisers. It is currently under discussion as to the primary fundraiser for the 2021-2022 school year. Fundraising activities by Whitefield Academy athletic teams must receive prior approval of the Athletic Director and the Whitefield Academy Fundraising Committee. In order for approval to be given, each fundraiser must have a justifiable, stated objective. Money raised should be used to supplement the particular sports program (i.e. purchase non-essential equipment, facilities rental, team dinners, banquets, travel expenses, etc.). Parents with ideas for fundraisers should submit these ideas to the Athletic Director via their team coach.

Social Media

Student-athletes are high-profile representatives of Whitefield Academy, and their behavior is subject to scrutiny by their peers, the campus, community, and the media. The actions of a single student-athlete can reflect positively or negatively not only on the individual student-athlete, but also on his or her team and coaches, the Athletics Department and the entire school campus. Therefore, student athletes are expected to represent themselves and Whitefield Academy with honor, dignity and integrity at all times – including when interacting on social networking websites and in other online environments. The popularity of social networking websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Vine, YouTube, Instagram, Blogspot, etc.) has grown tremendously during the last few years. These websites can serve as valuable communication tools when used appropriately. The use of social media, however, has the potential to cause problems for both the student-athlete and the school environment. Almost anything a student-athlete posts on a social networking site may be viewed by others, and both the media and the general public are more likely to view the profiles of student-athletes than the profiles of other students.

The Athletics Department has developed this Student-Athlete Social Networking Guideline in order to:

- (i) provide recommendations and suggestions for student-athletes to help them use social media in a safe and responsible manner
- (ii) outline important rules that student-athletes must follow when using social media

Important Suggestions & Recommendations Regarding Social Networking Sites

Some students mistakenly believe social networking websites have a veil of privacy about them and assume their profiles are viewed only by a close circle of friends and fellow students. To the contrary, the content on most of these sites is accessible by anyone in the general public unless security and privacy features are used. The public nature of these websites has created personal safety and personal welfare concerns. For example, student-athletes have been stalked or sexually harassed and assaulted as a result of their Facebook profiles.

Fans of opposing teams have taunted student-athletes based on information obtained from social networking sites. Student-athletes also should be aware that potential employers and graduate school admissions officers now regularly screen applicants by conducting "Google" searches of an applicant's name and by reviewing the applicant's social networking profiles. Students are being passed over for interviews and denied admission to universities based on the content of their profiles.

Student-athletes should be very careful about what personal information they share on the internet. For their own security, protection and welfare and that of their teammates and friends, the Athletics Department strongly recommends and advises student-athletes to:

- Keep phone numbers, physical addresses, birthdates, current whereabouts, travel plans and other personal information strictly confidential. This information should not be contained in a student athlete's personal online profile.
- Limit the access of others to e-mail addresses and screen carefully those whom a student-athlete may accept as "friends" on a social networking site.
- Use whatever security and privacy features are available to restrict the ability of others view a student-athlete's site or to post pictures, messages and other content on a student-athlete's site.

- If an individual contacts a student-athlete via a social networking site and the nature of the contact makes the student-athlete concerned for his or her safety or uncomfortable in any way, the student athlete should immediately contact a parent, a coach, or a campus administrator.

Rules Regarding Social Networking Sites

Participation in Whitefield Athletics is a privilege and not a right. As a condition of being a student-athlete participants must abide by the following rules related to the use of the internet and social networking sites:

1. Any postings or communications via social networking websites which disrupt either the educational or athletic environments or which advocates the violation of any school or team policy would be unacceptable.
2. Student-athletes may not post online any pictures, information or other content that might cause embarrassment to themselves, fellow student-athletes, teams, coaches, the Athletics Department or the campus (examples: obscene images or language, nudity, pictures at parties with alcohol, references to drugs, sex, or illegal activities).
3. Student-athletes may not post any content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual, teammate, coach, faculty member, or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another school). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, illegal drug use).
4. Student-athletes may not post any content online that would constitute a violation of the Whitefield Academy Student Handbook.

Whitefield Academy student-athletes are required to abide by rules set forth in these guidelines. The failure to do so will be considered a violation of the student-athlete code of conduct. The violation may result in disciplinary action by the athletics department and the school administration.

1st Offense - Warning and parent meeting with the head coach. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the team or athletic activities.

2nd Offense – Parent meeting with the head coach and the Athletic Director. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the team or athletic activities.

Sports Awards

Varsity sports letters will be awarded to those athletes who have earned a varsity letter by participating in at least one-half of the varsity games/matches/meets during the season. For additional sports and seasons played, athletes will be given an emblem and/or bar.

The Whitefield Academy Sports Ceremony of Awards and Recognitions (WASCARS), will be held in May of each year. Each high school team will be recognized during this ceremony, along with the presentation of team awards (as selected by coaches and team members) and program awards (as selected by coaches, members of the Student Athlete Council, and the athletic director). Elementary and middle school teams are encouraged to hold a banquet (or other post-season celebration) at the conclusion of their seasons.

NCAA

Athletes and parents may contact the head coach, athletic director or guidance counselor for the latest edition of the NCAA guidelines for student/athletes. Information can also be found on the website: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. This website contains detailed information regarding collegiate athletic participation. The NCAA governs athletics at Division I, II, III schools. Other collegiate experiences such as NAIA Div. I and II, NJCAA, NCCAA Div. I and II all have specific guidelines for participation.

Athletic Boards

The athletic director is advised by two separate boards designed to represent the school community. They are:

Athletic Advisory Board: This board consists of the Athletic Director, two coaches (one of a male team, one of a female team), two parents (one of a male athlete, one of a female athlete), two school community members, an alumnus, and four student-athletes (one from each high school grade, two male, two female). This committee meets a minimum of three times a year and doubles as the Whitefield Academy Title IX Committee.

Students Athletic Council: This board consists of the four student members serving on the Athletic Advisory Board and one member from each Varsity team fielded by Whitefield Academy. The council meets a minimum of three times a year and is used to represent the student-athletes interests in improving the Whitefield Academy athletic program. The council also advises on the program awards given at the WASCARS.