



PCS Athletic Handbook 2011-2012

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<i>Must be signed prior to first practice.</i>	



PCS Athletic Program Offerings

Programs are open to both boys and girls in all sports.

Fall: Soccer (Grades 5-8)

Winter: Basketball (Grades 5-8); Bowling (Grades 5-8)

Spring: Track (Grades 5-8); Baseball (Ages 8-14)

**PCS reserves the right to cancel a sport due to lack of interest or resources.*

Athletic Philosophy

We aim to develop the fundamentals of sport through purposeful practice with deliberate and dedicated coaching. We will instill essential values such as sportsmanship, cooperation, and scholastic achievement while involving as many athletes as possible.

Contact Information

Athletic Director

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7th-8th Girls

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7th-8th Boys

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PARENT GUIDE

Show Support and Cooperation

- Attend every contest that is feasible. Be positive and encouraging to your athlete and his/ her teammates without adding undue pressure and unrealistic expectations.
- Belief in and support the coach's judgment, character, actions, strategy, and overall philosophy will help your child do the same. Please do not attempt to coach from the stands.
- Please be respectful of all those around you: coaches, referees, parents, visitors, and children. Be a role model for other parents and students alike.
- Let your child and his/ her teammates know that you are supportive and believe in them regardless of individual or team performance in the competition.

Communication

- If your athlete must miss a practice/ competition for family reasons that are unavoidable, please inform the coach as soon as possible.
- If you have a concern or question, please verbalize it to the appropriate person (most often the coach). Choose an appropriate time to do so in a positive way. Confronting a coach before or after a competition is not an appropriate time.
- Coaches are professionals. They make judgments based upon the best interest of the team. The coach must take into account all members of the team. Therefore, coaches will not discuss an athlete's placement on the team, playing time, strategies used by the coach, or other athletes.



Sportsmanship for Parents & Spectators

It is important to make guests to our school activities feel welcome. All visitors should feel as though they have been treated fairly and dealt with in a sportsmanlike way. The skills of the visiting team should be recognized and appreciated. Everyone needs to work to create a positive atmosphere at PCS. All spectators are expected to adhere to the same rules regarding Conduct on School Property as listed in the PCS Handbook.

The following behavior is not acceptable at any competition: booing or jeering, mocking or taunting, yelling negative comments. Never confront officials or other participants during or following a competition. If a problem occurs, inform the school administration and allow them to deal with the situation. An official or school administrator (or their designee) has the authority to remove any person from the confines of the athletic competition for unsportsmanlike behavior. Also, the school may deny them the privilege of attending future competitions.

Your role as a parent and spectator is very important. Support your athlete, your team, and your school in a positive manner. Your efforts of support, communication, and sportsmanship are appreciated by the administration, coaching staff, and most of all, the athletes.

STUDENT GUIDE

All athletes shall agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- 1. I will be a worthy representative of my family, PCS, my coaches, and my team.**
 - a. I will not participate in any fight or physical confrontation. I will use physical force only in those limited circumstances where it is absolutely necessary for self-defense.
 - b. I will not taunt, jeer, boo, or otherwise make disapproving remarks or gestures toward others.
 - c. I will refrain from using foul, obscene, or threatening language or gestures.

- 2. I will be a responsible team player.**
 - a. I will attend every practice and competition unless excused by my parents or coach.
 - b. I will support my teammates and interact with them in a positive manner, always showing mutual respect.
 - c. I will diligently carry my share of team responsibilities.
 - d. I will cooperate with and submit to my coaches and those in authority.
 - e. I will place the good of the team over my own personal achievement.

- 3. I will maintain a proper balance between my responsibilities in the areas of academics, athletics, home, and community.**
 - a. I will not use athletics as a reason for not completing academic assignments.
 - b. I will find the time to satisfy my family responsibilities.
 - c. I will voluntarily withdraw from the athletics program if I find that I am unable to maintain my commitments in all areas of my life.
 - d. I will meet with my coach if I need to drop out of a sport. I understand that I forfeit my eligibility for the next sport season upon the discretion of the Athletic Director.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Academics:

An athlete is scholastically eligible, if:

- The athlete is in good standing in all classes. Good standing means maintaining E, V, or S in all classes.
- The athlete must provide weekly progress report to coach or Athletic Director on the due date to be eligible for competition.
- Ineligible athletes may not practice after-school or be on the court or field during competitions.

Academic Effort & Conduct:



Any athlete who does not demonstrate satisfactory effort and conduct in all subjects will not be allowed to participate in athletics.

Conduct & Behavior Requirements for Student-Athletes:

Students who become members of a PCS athletic team assume a leadership role, allowing them to greatly contribute to school spirit and community pride. We expect our athletes to embrace these responsibilities, to represent high ideals of athletic conduct, and through their behavior on and off the field or court, to serve as role models to the sports community as well as students at PCS.

PCS athletes must understand and adhere to the following guidelines for conduct:

1. Academic requirements take precedence over the sports program.
2. Athletes must not engage in disrespectful behavior or improper language.
3. Athletes must not smoke, consume alcoholic beverages, or use drugs.
4. Removals from class and referrals to the Dean of Students will be dealt with on an individual basis. Half and full day removals from class result in the athlete not being able to practice or play on that day. It is the student's responsibility to notify the Athletic Director about the removal.
5. If an athlete receives three removals for conduct in one athletic season, that conduct will be reviewed by the Dean of Students and Athletic Director. The athlete may be suspended for more than one game or practice, or may be removed from the team for the duration of the season.
6. Any serious or flagrant violations of school or team rules will result in immediate suspension for the remainder of the sports season. After review by the Dean of Students, Athletic Director, and CAO, the student may be removed from all sports for the remainder of the school year.

In addition to the above guidelines, all PCS athletes are expected to observe good sportsmanship in their behavior on and off the field or court. Athletes are expected to:

- Play the game for the game's sake
- Be generous in winning
- Be gracious in losing
- Be fair at all times, no matter what it costs.
- Observe the rules of the game
- Work and play for the good of the team
- Accept the decisions of the officials with respect
- Believe in the honesty of the other team members
- Conduct themselves with dignity
- Recognize and applaud honestly the efforts of their teammates and members of the other team

Academic Probation:

Athletes that begin the sport season in good academic standing and then earn less than good standing (P, U) in any class during the season will be placed on academic probation. After the first week of ineligibility AND with the consent of the parents, a student may appeal to the Athletic Director for CONDITIONAL eligibility. If the conditional eligibility is granted, the student must submit weekly progress reports signed by all teachers to the Athletic Director indication that the student has caught up in all classes and is earning E, V, or N. If a student falls behind in any class during this conditional period, s/he will return to ineligibility for a minimum of one week.

Attendance:

Athletes must be in attendance for at least four classes or arrive by 12:00pm or they may not be allowed to participate in any athletic activities (practice/ competitions). Exceptions are few, but may include scheduled doctor appointments, dentist appointments, etc. If an athlete is too sick to attend school, then s/he is too sick to practice or compete.



Athletes must be on time for all practices and competitions. Unexcused absences from competitions and games may result in dismissal from the team.

Early Release from Class:

It is the responsibility of the athletes to communicate with their teachers before they depart because of an athletic contest. Teachers will receive a team roster with the names of all team members at the beginning of a season. Athletes with an early release time should remind their teacher of this before class of the day of the event. Athletes are responsible for any work and tests missed due to an early release time.

Vacation:

Vacation by athletes during a sport season is discouraged. In the event an absence due to vacation is unavoidable, an athlete must:

- Contact the head coach prior to the absence.
- Be willing to assume the responsibilities and consequences of missing tryouts, practices, and competitions.

Consequences will be at the discretion of the head coach; vacation policies will be reviewed by the head coach at the beginning of each season.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Submission of the following forms to the Athletic Director or coach prior to the first day of practice/ participation:

- Completed emergency card
- Attendance with one parent/ guardian at the coaches' meeting scheduled by the Athletic Director
- Signed parent & athlete contract

Financial Obligations:

- Uniforms: In some sports, athletes will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become their property. School issued uniforms are to be worn only for competitions or as designated by the coach. School issued uniforms are to be returned in good condition by the required date at the end of the season. Uniforms not returned in good condition at the time requested at the end of the season will be subject to financial penalty and forfeiture of future participation.
- Equipment: Athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them. All equipment not returned in good condition at the time requested at the end of the season will be subject to financial penalty and forfeiture of future participation.

Cut Policy:

When an athlete tries out for a team, s/he may be faced with the cut system. In some instances, only a certain number of competitors are allowed per team. If an athlete is cut, s/he is welcome to try out for another sport or try out again the following year.

Transportation:

Transportation to and from practice and competitions is the responsibility of the parent/ guardian. Arrival times for competition will be determined and listed on the schedule. Directions will be provided and sent home with the athletes. Athletes who frequently arrive late or are picked up late will be sat out of competition or possibly removed from the team. If circumstances are beyond your control, contact the coach or Athletic Director prior to practice or competition to determine if a ride is available with a school-designated representative.

Uniforms:

Each athlete will be assigned a uniform at the beginning of the season. Athletes are expected to inspect this uniform and report any damage to the coach immediately. Any damage that occurs during the season, including



tears and stains, is the responsibility of the athlete. Athletes will be charged a replacement fee for damaged or lost uniforms.

Uniforms must be returned to PCS, cleaned and in good repair, by the date assigned by the coach. The coach or Athletic Director will notify athletes at least one week in advance from the date the uniforms need to be returned. Place cleaned uniforms in a bag labeled with the athlete's name and sport. Uniforms not returned by the due date will be considered lost and the replacement cost will be billed to the athlete's parent/ guardian.

Athletes will receive a uniform, when PCS has the following:

- Emergency Card
- Signed Athletic Contract
- Uniform Fee (if applicable)

Jewelry may not be worn at practices or competitions. Earrings, watches, and items made of rope or leather are not permissible. Jewelry may not be covered with athletic tape for practices or competitions. Religious and medical medals must be taped to the body under the uniform. Athletes refusing to adhere to these rules will accept that practice or competition as an unexcused absence.

Dress Code:

Athletes must be dressed in school uniforms to and from competitions. Athletes representing the school on activity trips must be dressed in a manner reflecting credit on themselves and the school. This means, no less appropriate attire than that required of students during regular school hours. The judgment will be made by the coach/ Athletic Director.

Medication/ Allergies:

Coaches will carry a medical kit to all practices and games. Any emergency medications prescribed by a doctor (i.e. EpiPen or inhaler) must be submitted for this kit for the duration of the season. If an athlete must carry an inhaler or EpiPen on his/ her person, a statement from the athlete's doctor noting the athlete's ability to self-administer the medication is required and must be submitted to the coach.



Athletic Contract

Dear Parents & Student-Athletes:

Each new season brings fresh challenges and exciting opportunities. The privilege of being on a Pinnacle Charter School athletic team is a true extension of the student’s work in the classroom. We hope students will benefit from athletic experiences as much as they do from their academic endeavors.

Interscholastic athletics at Pinnacle Charter School is a privilege, not a right. I agree to obey all regulations and rules set by Pinnacle Charter School, the coaches, and the league; in addition to the following:

1. Show mutual respect to teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, and spectators. Apply principles of hard work, dedication, and perseverance in all aspects of the program.
2. If conflicts arise, I agree to direct my concerns to the coach first. If the situation is not resolved, I will then contact the following individuals in order until the conflict is resolved: Athletic Director, Chief Academic Officer, Board of Directors Chair.
3. I understand that I must attend the coach’s meeting at the beginning of the season as scheduled by the Athletic Director. My attendance at this meeting will qualify my child to become eligible in the sport season. Failure to attend these meetings will make my child ineligible to participate until a meeting with the Athletic Director can be completed.

I acknowledge that I have read the terms of the Athletic Contract and Handbook. I also understand and agree that any violation of the handbook may result in disciplinary action. I have read, understand, and agree to uphold the Pinnacle Charter School Handbook and Contract.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/ Guardian Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: _____