



Lakeway Christian Academy – Athletic Handbook

Lakeway Christian Schools Mission Statement

Partnering with families to provide a Christ-centered and academically challenging education, equipping students with a biblical worldview and a heart for Christ, that they may grow in wisdom, stature and in favor with God and man.

Athletic Mission Fulfillment

Joyfully, humbly and with great gratitude magnify Christ to make Him look great by all we do.

Daily Devotion: Our Process

To love and serve Jesus
To love and serve Others
To develop our Partners

Partners

Students/Athletes
Administration
Athletic Staff
Faculty and Staff
Parents and Families
Community

Essentials: “GROWL”

Growth-The process of maturing spiritually, mentally and physically

Responsibility- Consistently accountable in all things and in all circumstances

Opportunity- “God wants us to press on in the present; because the present is where eternity touches us now”

Wisdom-The right use of knowledge

Loyalty-Wholehearted solidarity coupled with unswerving devotion and duty

Actions

Develop-continue growth as coaches and athletes

Swell-grow in number and stature as you speak truth

Influence-through servant leadership establish a new culture

Gratitude-Show and Tell everyday

Building the Lion Pride Culture

Create It-Our Mission
Believe It-Our Mission
Teach It-Our Mission
Live It-Our Mission
Sell It-Our Mission
Know It-Our Mission
Measure It-Our Mission
Reward It-Our Mission
Evolve It-Our Mission

LCS Staff / Athletics Personnel Structure

Headmaster LCS
Principal
Athletic Director
Athletics Admin Assistant
Head Coaches
Assistant Coaches
Athletic Trainer

Head Coach

It is the philosophy of the Lakeway Administration to allow coaches to coach and control their teams/individual players. This allows the Head Coach the autonomy to be able to own and operate their **teams within the mission of Lakeway and TSSAA**. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to create the direction and culture of their team. This includes, but is not limited to setting standards, policies, team rules, discipline/consequences, coaching methods and communication style.

1. The Head Coach of the varsity team oversees the direction of the overall program of that sport for all other non-varsity teams.
2. The Head Coach is responsible for the total development of her or his program.
3. The Head Coach reports directly to the Athletic Director.
4. The Head Coach is expected to uphold the mission of LCS and fulfillment of the mission per the athletic mission and process.
5. All aspects of the Head Coaches' conduct, responsibilities and interactions with others should be made in accordance with the mission of LCS.

Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA)

1. LCA is a member of the TSSAA.
2. LCA will abide and operate in accordance with the policies, rules and regulations of the TSSAA as directed by their governing body.
3. The TSSAA handbook is available online at <http://tssaa.org/> or questions regarding the TSSAA should be directed to the Athletic Director.

We are aligned in Division II: East Region District 1

District Teams:

Berean Christian School (Knoxville, TN.)
Christian Academy of Knoxville (Knoxville, TN.)
Concord Christian School (Knoxville, TN.)
First Baptist Academy (Powell, TN.)
Grace Christian Academy (Knoxville, TN.)

Parent Meetings

1. All sport teams will have a parent meeting prior to the official TSSAA start date. The dates will be communicated to the entire school population if needed or to specific team members.
2. The information conveyed at this meeting will be essential and pertinent.
3. Information regarding expectations, practice schedules, game schedules, procedures, rules and policies will be communicated by the coach and staff.
4. Attendance is strongly recommended. If you unable to attend the parent meeting it is the parent's responsibility to contact the athletic department to receive information covered at this meeting.
5. Information regarding expectations, practice schedules, game schedules, procedures, rules and policies will be communicated by the coach and staff.

Communication

1. Students are responsible to communicate with their parents/guardians and relay messages that are changes from the initial schedule; such as practice start and end times, dates, updates, changes, etc.
2. In addition to the student's responsibility LCA will post important information, dates, events, practices, games, changes, etc. Information will be located on one or several of the LCS communication sites; school calendar, website <https://www.lcstn.org/>, LCS athletic website <https://www.lakewaylions.org/> LCA social media outlets, Eweekly and renweb emails.
3. Individual coaches and teams may also use an internet app (eg Remind, Band) to communicate directly with players and families.
4. **There should be no direct contact** using technology exclusively between the coach and the athlete.

Lakeway athlete, fan and parent representation

1. Athletic events give us a public platform to present the mission of our school and represent LCS.
2. We will always strive to compete fiercely at our very highest level, represent LCS with class and win the contest.
3. All our actions and words on the field or court, and in the stands should be sportsmanlike and glorify God.
4. **TSSAA Unsportsmanlike Conduct Standards and Policies-From TSSAA Handbook**
 - a. The TSSAA and its member schools believe strongly that the major purpose of athletics at the secondary level is to be a part of the total educational program. A major part of this purpose is to stress to coaches, players, officials, and fans the vital importance of sportsmanship. It is critical that all people in each of these categories understand the major role that they play and the role model that they can be for others. Recognizing this principle, unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any of these groups cannot be accepted. As a result, the following actions will be taken when unsportsmanlike conduct occurs—refer to the TSSAA handbook which is available online at <http://tssaa.org/>

Parent/Guardian Support and Participation

1. You are the most important and influential person in your child's life. The main goal of your child is to make you proud by their actions and efforts. We believe the best way to support your child's athletic endeavors is to provide positive feedback, encouragement both in the stands and outside the arena of competition.
2. Be present to support your child no matter what their role on the team.
3. If questions or conflicts arise, please have your child pursue a conversation with their coach. This is beneficial in teaching our students to deal in relationships and mature has children of God. If a situation is

not resolved or is of a serious nature, then call the Coach yourself. If no solution can be reached at that point, then call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting of all parties involved.

4. We all strive to remember that we are not defined as children of God by our performance, but by His grace and glory revealed in our performance. Thank you very much for your help and support!

Special Requirements

1. Each athlete must have a physical before each new school year. The TSSAA rules require that a student must have a physical on file at the school dated by a physician after April 15 preceding the current school year. The TSSAA policy is included in the Sports Medicine section of the handbook.
2. Anyone interested in trying out for a team or participating on a team must be at the tryout and/or first practice. Anyone moving in after the tryout date or start of the season will be treated as a special circumstance. The Coach must be notified ahead of time if a student is going to miss the tryout and/or first practice and arrangements will be made if the absence is considered excused or the circumstances are deemed excused by the coach.
3. Sports may require fees for apparel, shoes and equipment. This fee will be communicated to you at the parent meeting prior to the season.
4. All families with students participating in athletics will be asked to support the athletic department in volunteer roles. This will include but not limited to working game admissions and concessions.

Practice Attendance Requirements

1. Practice is the most important aspect of our athletic department and teams. Practice is where fundamentals, individual skill development, individual/team discipline, character and team culture are developed.
2. Once you have joined a team, you have committed yourself to a Lakeway team.
3. Being a member of a Lakeway team takes priority over a recreation and club team.
4. Athletes must attend all required practices and games unless excused for one of the following reasons:
 - a. Personal sickness
 - b. Injury-Reported to the athletic trainer and reported by the athletic trainer to the Head Coach
 - c. Death in the family
 - d. Previously scheduled commitment approved by the Head Coach
5. The Head Coach will have attendance policies in place for their program. These will follow the Athletic Department policy but may vary somewhat from program to program. The coach will communicate their policies and procedures for missed practices/games prior to the start of the season.
6. Coaches will also announce their policy and procedures regarding promptness and tardiness.
7. Any athlete who misses practice for an excused reason may be subject to extra work/conditioning/practice and/or miss playing time upon their return to practice. This is intended to benefit the individual as well as the team. It should not be viewed as punishment.
8. No athlete will be required to do extra conditioning when missing practice due to a death in the family.

Athlete Conduct

1. As a representative of Lakeway Christian Schools each athlete is expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the school. Refer to the Parent-Student Handbook. Any misconduct is subject to the disciplinary action of the school administration.
2. Every athlete is expected to strive to represent the school mission in all areas.
3. All athletes are required to follow the rules and procedures of conduct presented to them by the head coach.
4. An athlete who receives a detention that forces them to miss part or all the practice must serve the detention. Coaches will discipline players who are late or absent from practices due to detention according to team procedures.

5. A student who is suspended from school at the time of a team tryout will be subject to the review of conduct by the school administration. This will be done by a case by case situation knowing that circumstances and severity of the offense of the student may vary and each case requires specific consideration. The administration will determine if a suspended student may tryout during the term of serving their suspension.
6. There will be absolutely no tolerance of team or individual hazing.
7. Any athlete or coach who is ejected from a game(s) will be subject but not limited to TSSAA discipline.

Rules of Eligibility for participation in practices and games

1. As a member of TSSAA all Lakeway administration, athletic staff and participants adhere to the eligibility rules of the TSSAA <http://tssaa.org/>.
2. If an athlete is absent (excused) from school more than a half-day than they are not permitted to actively practice or participate in a contest on the same day. They can attend practice/contest and watch. A half day point is 11:30. If the student is removed from school for a family emergency, appointment, parental request, administrative exemption may apply.
3. If an athlete faces a disciplinary action that results in an In-School Suspension, the athlete must sit out a half of the next contest.
4. If an athlete faces a disciplinary action that results in a suspension from school, the athlete must sit out and not attend the same number of contests that they missed school days (% formula--based off of days of school per quarter=45). Example: If an athlete is suspended for five days then they must miss 9% of all team contests. The minimum number is one contest.

Selection of Team Members

1. The coach will determine annually how each team is to be selected according to the interested number of participants.
2. An effort will be made by the athletic department to create as many team roles as possible for interested students in addition to players. Example-Team managers, video coordinators, student athletic trainers, student assistant coaches
3. Each coach has the responsibility to select their team members.
4. Each coach has the option to have tryouts to select his team.
5. All final approval for selection methods will be approved before the selection by the AD and Headmaster.
6. Participation is a core value of our school and athletic department but the commitment to provide proper training and excellence for each team and its members may limit the number of athletes per team.

Athlete Dress Requirements

1. All students and athletes must adhere to the policies and procedures of the Lakeway school dress code. Refer to the Parent-Student Handbook.
2. Team uniform game and practice dress will be determined by the head coach and enforced by the head coach. All uniform and game attire are subject to TSSAA and sport specific rules.

Transportation

1. Directions and/or addresses to away games will be posted on the school website: lakewaylions.org
2. All athletic travel falls under the student transportation policies and rules of LCS.

3. The head coach will communicate mode of transportation for each away contest.
4. We will use LCS buses, vans and certified drivers.
5. It is mandatory that all athletes travel with the team unless special permission is given by the coach.
 - a. An athlete may not travel in any vehicle to or from an event unless permission is requested by a parent and permission is granted by the coach.
 - b. There will be away events when athletes will be asked to provide their own transportation.
6. Any exceptions to the above may be amended by the AD or Headmaster.

Athletic Uniforms and Equipment

1. Any uniforms issued to an athlete are the athlete's responsibility to take care of and return in good shape.
2. Athletes will be required to pay at retail rate for lost/damaged uniforms or equipment.
3. The head coach will determine practice and game uniforms.
4. All uniforms and equipment must be returned to the coach within the time period designated by the head coach.
5. An athlete will not be allowed to participate in another sport until overdue uniforms, equipment and fees have been paid.

Sports Medicine and Athlete Health

1. Athlete health and safety are of the utmost importance.
2. All athletic related injuries will be under the administration of the LCA athletic trainer, physician and medical professionals.
3. It is the athlete's responsibility to report all injuries to the coach and athletic trainer if they do not occur in the presence of the trainer or coach.
4. The athletic trainer/athletic staff/coaches will follow Sport Medicine protocol in cases of onsite game/practice injuries or emergency.
5. No injured athlete will participate in a game or practice until the doctor and/or athletic trainer has released him/her and communicated with the parents and coach.
6. Communication with the parents will be immediate and consistent throughout the process of injury recovery and rehab.
7. TSSAA physical exam policy-It is required that no student be permitted to participate in practice sessions or in athletic contests until there is on file with the principal a preparticipation medical evaluation form signed by a doctor of medicine, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, or certified nurse practitioner stating that the student has passed a physical examination, not prior to April 15, and that in their opinion the student is physically fit to participate in interscholastic athletics. In lieu of the form, the principal may accept a signed statement from the health care provider certifying that the student has passed a physical examination that encompasses all elements on the preparticipation medical evaluation form and attesting that in their opinion the student is physically fit to participate in interscholastic athletics.
 - a. No student shall be required to submit to a physical exam if his/her parent(s) or legal guardian shall file with the principal a signed, written statement (affirmed under the penalties of perjury) declining such physical examination on grounds of sincerely held beliefs or practices.
 - b. It is required that no student be permitted to participate in practice sessions or in athletic contests until there is on file a parental consent certificate signed by a parent or legal guardian stating that the student has the consent of his/her parent(s) or legal guardian to participate.