

# Our Lady's Christian School

## Sports Eligibility Policy

*September 12, 2011*

### Guidance from our Church

***“Every Christian is called to become a strong athlete of Christ, that is, a faithful and courageous witness to his Gospel. But to succeed in this, he must persevere in prayer, be trained in virtue and follow the divine Master in everything.”***

*Pope John Paul II October 29, 2000*

### Introduction

The following guidelines are provided to allow for a listing of expectations of the highest caliber for boys and girls who play under the banner of Our Lady's Christian School sporting teams. These may seem lofty to some, but they are time-honored proven eligibility requirements of a solid Catholic sporting environment. Students meeting the guidelines listed below are deemed eligible to participate in the Athletic Program offered by Our Lady's Christian School.

### Policy Points

1. Athletes desiring to play a sport(s) for Our Lady's Christian School (OLCS) must be currently enrolled student at OLCS.
2. He or she must be in good academic standing. “Good academic standing” is defined as achieving a minimum of a “C” in every course. Verification of such must be made by the OLCS principal's signature on the eligibility card.
3. Further, the student's family must be current on their tuition payments. Verification of such must be made by the OLCS principal's signature on the eligibility card.
4. Additionally, an athlete for OLCS who is a Catholic it is expected to faithfully participate in regular weekend worship (Mass attendance) each week, as an OLCS athlete is aware that they possess a gift from Almighty God for which they must be grateful.
5. On occasion, there is a need to augment the number of players on an OLCS team. This allows for the invitation to be given to students who are registered and faithfully attend their home parish's religious education program as well commit to faithful attendance at Mass each weekend. This applies only to religious education (RE) students from St. Jude, St. Julia, and St. Andrew's Parish.
6. The need for RE students to participate will be determined on a year by year, sport by sport basis. This determination will be made based on the number of OLCS students

signed up to play a specific sport in order to field the minimum number of athletes for a specific sport.

- a. Coaches must seek permission from the athletic board to open their particular sport up to RE students.
  - b. If a student participates on an OLCS sports team as a RE student, that student shall be grandfathered in for the remainder of his/her athletic eligibility for that sport only.
  - c. All RE eligibility shall be verified in writing with the religious education director and pastor for each parish.
7. The athlete must receive a yearly medical exam as per OLCS and diocesan sporting rules.
8. A student is deemed **ineligible** when they:
- a. Fail to achieve a “C” average in each course
  - b. Discontinue or have sporadic attendance at their RE program
  - c. Discontinue or have sporadic attendance at weekend Mass
  - d. Leave OLCS to enroll in another school.
9. The athlete may become eligible again after a 1 year hiatus provided they are enrolled and actively involved in a Catholic RE Program and faithful weekly Mass attendance offered by their home parish.
10. The above is effective immediately, and shall be held as the standard and rule until it is amended or abrogated by the pastor of Saint Jude the Apostle Church.

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Rev. Mark A. Hoffman  
*Pastor, St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church*

Also agreed to and witnessed by:

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Ms. Rebecca Carey  
*Principal, Our Lady's Christian School*

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Lou Montefiori  
*Athletic Director, Our Lady's Christian School*