

GO BEARS!

BROOKSIDE CHARTER SCHOOL



**ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK
2021-2022**

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Inspire

Fearless

Teamwork

Dedication

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Welcome to the Brookside Charter School Athletic/Activities Program

The Brookside Charter Way

Enter to Learn, Exit to Lead

Vision: We empower students to be leaders of their tomorrow.

Mission Statement: We develop leaders who bravely make the world a more just place. We nurture the whole child, instill a growth mindset and foster cultural competence.

Athletics and Activities Department Philosophy

Brookside Charter School's primary purpose is the development of mature, responsible, and productive young adults. We believe that student activities, including athletics, are a key piece in developing well rounded students. With that being said, academics come first; but the entire Brookside Charter community is well aware of the many benefits attained through athletics and activities.

Program Objectives

1. To provide opportunities to develop lasting friendships with teammates and opponents.
2. To develop good citizenship and respect for rules and authority.
3. To become positive role models inside of school as well as outside.
4. To provide opportunities to exemplify and observe great sportsmanship.
5. To encourage student athletes to achieve academic success and to keep athletics in proper perspective.
6. To teach and emphasize the fundamental skills of the various sports as a necessary ingredient in achieving individual and team success.
7. To provide unlimited opportunities to help our students learn and grow as leaders.

Responsibilities of a Student Athlete

We believe that school activities make a significant contribution to the personal growth and development of its participants. Brookside Charter also believes that school activities will only enhance the ability of each student athlete in the classroom. We encourage students to commit themselves on being the best they can be both in and out of the classroom. If the value of school activities is to be achieved, certain responsibilities are expected of the student participant:

1. Athletes are always in the public eye. Students must conduct themselves in a quality manner. Student athletes have an obligation to create a favorable image and gain the respect of teammates, the student body, and the Brookside Charter Community.
2. Remember, the younger students in our community are watching. The magnitude of the impact that you have on their lives is tremendous. Student athletes are role models and need to conduct themselves as such. Always set examples for them which are positive, and which will help them to develop positive and productive lifestyles.
3. Controlling what I can control, my attitude and effort, being positive and enthusiastic, encouraging, supporting and acknowledging my teammates.

4. Participating with honor and integrity.

5. Accepting responsibility for my behavior on and off the playing field or court.

Parental Involvement

Code of Ethics for Parents of Athletes

We understand and endorse the purpose of education-based athletics, which is to help our students become people of integrity who will lead, be responsible, and serve our community as positive change-makers. Your enthusiasm as a spectator includes a vital responsibility for good sportsmanship. Your habits and reactions determine the quality of sportsmanship, which reflects upon our school and community. Parents are expected to:

- Support the coaches by affirming behavior in our student and his or her teammates that demonstrates the characteristics of integrity, empathy, sacrifice, and responsibility.
- Respect school property and authority.
- Show respect for opponents and opposing coaches and fans. Serve as role models by treating visiting teams and coaches, officials, and event workers with respect. Let the officials officiate.
- Model good sportsmanship by acknowledging the efforts of your team and the opponents as well, accepting graciously the outcome of each contest.
- Support the efforts of the team; regardless of the amount of playing time afforded your son or daughter, or the win-loss record.
- Avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior at all times. This can and will reflect upon Brookside Charter School.
- Encourage not only your child, but their teammates, knowing that every practice and in every game they are growing physically and emotionally, learning moral and ethical lessons, and developing strength of character.

Suggestions for Parent(s) Best Practices

- Be involved – Kids are proud when their parents attend their events. Please remember, you are modeling parent behavior for all present, particularly, your son or daughter. Never react out of emotion.
- Get involved – Get involved in the BCS parent group (PULSE).
- Track your students' grades – Especially during the season. (Contact the coach for information on Parent Portal.)
- Make sure your student is:
 - Eating healthy
 - Getting enough rest
 - Managing their time
- Stay positive
- We are all BCS – Take pride in representing your team, your school, BCS and our community.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your child or athlete.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior or academics.

Issues not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time, team strategy, and play calling.
2. Other student-athletes/participants.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

Parent Meetings

Each sport will have a mandatory parent meeting in the beginning of the season. If a parent cannot make this meeting, they must set up a meeting with the coach and athletic director.

Team Communication to Parents

All coaches will use Remind 101 as the bases for parental communication. It is recommended for all parents and/or guardians to be signed up for Remind 101. This application will help minimize any confusion regarding practice times, game times/locations, etc..

Programs Offered

Fall Activities

Girls Volleyball: 5th-8th grade
Boys Cross Country: 5th-8th grade
Girls Cross Country: 5th-8th grade

Winter Activities

Boys Basketball: 5th-8th grade
Girls Basketball: 5th-8th grade
Spirit Squad: 5th-8th grade

Spring Activities

Boys Track & Field: 5th-8th grade
Girls Track & Field: 5th-8th grade
Flag Football: 6th-8th grade

Year-Round Activities

Alpha Omega: K-8th grade
Biddy Ball: K-4th grade
Boy Scouts: 5th-8th grade
Baby Bears Spirit Squad: K-4th
Chess Club: TBD
Debate Team: TBD
Gamma Girls: K-8th grade
Girl Scouts: TBD
Girls on the run: 4th-8th
Green Club: 5th-8th grade
Leadership Committee: 3rd-4th grade
Math Team: 3rd-5th grade
National Junior Honor Society: 4th-8th
Writing Club: 3rd-4th grade
Yearbook Club: 8th grade
Esports: 4th-8th

Athletics and Activities at BCS are a privilege and not a right. If a student does not represent their team, school, family and community, in a positive way, the student can be dismissed from the program. All activities will follow the same eligibility requirements as listed below on page 6 of the Athletic and Activities handbook.

Middle School (5th-6th grade)

At the Middle School level our desire is to provide quality instruction in beginning the early development of the students' talents. Playing time is at the discretion of the coach, but should be equally distributed as much as possible. This instruction is fulfilled through teaching fundamental skills, developing character traits such as persistence, dependability, dedication, self-control, and teamwork. At this level the emphasis is the active participation of each student.

Junior High (7th-8th grade)

At the Junior High level our desire is to provide quality instruction and coaching to further develop students' skills and talents. This instruction is fulfilled through teaching fundamental and advanced skills, developing and demonstrating character traits such as persistence, dependability, dedication, self-control, and teamwork. Coaches at the Junior High levels should emphasize development of both the individual and the team. Coaches at this level are encouraged to play as many participants as possible. Naturally, the playing time becomes more competitive as student-athletes progress to the junior high levels.

Study Hall

All 5th-8th grade athletes will be required to attend study hall at least once per week. Each student will come prepared and ready to work during these study hall sessions. This will be a great time for all athletes to get caught up on work, receive extra help from teachers, and complete homework.

Athletic and Activity Eligibility Requirements and Fees

Athletes are students first, and as such, are expected to set a positive example in the classroom. Students participating in athletics and/or activities will be held to high standards of academic excellence. The requirements are listed below;

Grade Checks

- Students will receive grade checks weekly every Monday at practice. If the student misses a Monday practice, it is the student's responsibility to pick one up from their coach.
 - Grade checks are due by 1pm every Thursday in the designated box for the sport or activity.
- Students must obtain a passing grade of a "C" or better to compete in athletic events or activities.
 - If a student has a "D" on their grade check: they can practice, but will not be eligible for competition during that week.
 - If a student has an "F" on their grade check: they will not be able to attend practice or participate in their activity that week. That student will be put on academic probation until the grade has been raised. They may attend study hall.
 - All students are encouraged to turn in their grade checks, even with failing grades. This gives the coach an opportunity to work with the student and help give direction in bringing academic success.

Attendance

- Athletes are required to be at school on time, and stay start to finish the day of any event.
- Students are required to maintain at least 90% attendance. If a student falls below the required percentage they will become ineligible until the attendance has been brought up.

Fines/Fees

- In accordance with the 2021-2022 Family Handbook, students' with a fine or fee will not be allowed to participate in extended care, athletics, clubs, or field trips. The fee must be paid before the athlete can participate in any event.

Physical Exams/Insurance

- Physical exams must be completed and turned in to the athletic director. In order for this physical exam to be valid, it must have been administered on or after February 1st of the previous year, and have been signed by a parent or legal guardian giving the student permission to participate. Also, proof of insurance form must be filled out; this form is attached to the physical form.

Athletic Handbook

- The acknowledgment form must be completed by the student and legal guardian, and turned in to the athletic director. This form is attached to the athletic handbook. (Pg. 11)

Participation Fee

- The participation fee for a student-athlete will be \$25.00 per year. The fee covers a meal for away games and a snack before practice.
 - The fee must be paid before the first scheduled game of the first sport the athlete plays.
 - The fee must be paid at the front office.

Practice

- 14 full practices must be completed in order for a student-athlete to participate in their first contest. This does not need to occur if a student-athlete participated in a sport during the school year.
- A student-athlete may not transfer sports during the season.

Discipline

_____All disciplinary manners will be handled by the head coach of each individual program.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

- ISS is a suspension lasting 1 to 10 days as determined by the administration and in accordance with the Discipline Handbook and is served in the Support Room within the school.
 - Any student who is assigned ISS will not be eligible for extracurricular activities or sports beginning the day they begin their ISS and ending on the day following the completion of their ISS term or assignment.

Out-of School Suspension (OSS)

- OSS is a suspension lasting 1 to 10 days as determined by the administration and in accordance with the Discipline Handbook and is served outside the school building. Any student who is assigned OSS will not be eligible for extracurricular activities or sports beginning the day they begin their OSS and ending on the day following the completion of their OSS term or assignment.
 - This will result in no practice or games, and if a game does not fall during the OSS term, they are to be held out of the next scheduled game in which they could have participated. A student disciplined by the administration may not participate in a contest during the time of their suspension.

Possession and/or use of Drug or Alcohol

The use of controlled substances, alcohol, and substances represented to be such, as well as the possession of drug paraphernalia, is prohibited at all times and is subject to disciplinary action.

Practice Requirements

- Clothing needs to be school appropriate and follow the dress code. If you do not adhere to his, you will not participate in practice. Please revert back to the Family Handbook for appropriate dress code.
- Parents are expected to come into the building to pick up their students; students will not be sent out to the parking lot unattended. Each coach will have a sign out sheet. Only people designated on the pickup list may pick that child up.
- Students must be picked up by 6pm, or there will be a 12 dollar late fee charged.

Equipment

- Each athlete is responsible for all equipment issued to him/her. If the athlete fails to return the equipment, he/she must pay the replacement cost. Failure to do so will result in the athlete not receiving any awards and not being allowed to participate in another sport until the lost equipment is returned or until the replacement cost has been paid. Grade cards will also be held until the obligations are settled.
- Uniforms will be checked in and washed by Brookside Charter personnel.
- Uniforms are not to be worn outside of school athletic events.

Travel

On trips, athletic teams directly represent their community, school, and coaches. It is expected that all concerned be dressed according to the description of the Athletic Department, and conduct themselves in an acceptable manner. The coach will describe appropriate dress for travel.

- Whenever the team has an away game, all athletes are to ride the provided means of transportation to the event.
- Students are expected to return to school with the team on the provided means of transportation.
- Students may return home with their parents if the parents are at the event and sign out with the coach. The parent will then take full responsibility for their child. Students must ride home only with someone on the pick-up list.
- Students, even with a note, will not be permitted to ride home with anyone except their parents or guardians. Final approval for allowing athletes to return home with a parent or someone on the pick-up list is with the coach.

Personal Items

Brookside Charter School takes no responsibility for lost or stolen items. Students must secure personal items in the lockers provided. Students must be cautious about personal items taken on away games, as they are the student's responsibility.

Cell Phone Policy

Students must follow the same guidelines as listed in the Family Handbook for cell phone use. Under no circumstances may a student have their cell phone out in the locker rooms, practice area, or away games. However, a student may bring their cell phone on away games in order to contact parents.

Team Meals

The Athletic Director must give permission prior to any team meals. Team dinners must be all-inclusive, no team members left out. Under no circumstance may a parent bring a meal to their child.

Athletic Injuries and Medication

- All injuries to an athlete should be reported to the coach. In case of serious injury, the Athletic Director or school Administrator will be notified as quickly as possible. If medical care is called for, the choice of physician should be made by the parents of the athlete.
- All medication of a student-athlete must follow Brookside Charter protocol (Family Handbook). The student's parent or guardian must turn in the medication with proper authorization to the school nurse. No medication can be on the student, or be taken without prior consent. The coach of each respective sport will have authorized medication on hand if needed by the athlete.

Concerns/Resolutions

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, please follow the procedure below.

1. Call and set up an appointment with the coach, (816) 531-2192
2. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call the Athletic Director- Brian Witt, and set up an appointment (816) 531-2192 ext. 1125 and we can meet together to resolve the problem.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Brookside Charter School is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, age, sex, national origin, marital or veteran status of the presence of a non-job related medical condition or disability.

Any person having inquiries concerning Brookside Charter School's compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title XI, and Section 504 is directed to contact the following person who has been designated to coordinate efforts to comply with these regulations.

Roger Offield- Superintendent for Brookside Charter School (816) 531-2192 *Participation in Extracurricular Activities at Brookside Charter School is a privilege not a right. This privilege may be revoked at any time by the Coach, Athletic Director, or School Administration for behavior deemed detrimental to the good order of the program.*

**Athletic Department
Athletic Handbook Acknowledgment Form**

This statement must be signed by the participant and the parent/guardian

I have read and understand the Brookside Charter School Athletic and Activities Handbook, and I fully understand what is expected of me as a Brookside Charter School program participant. I accept personal responsibility for living up to these expectations, and for abiding by the Athletic Department Student Handbook.

(Student Signature)

Date:

I acknowledge receiving the Brookside Charter School Athletic and Activities Handbook, and I understand what is expected of my son/daughter as a Brookside Charter School program participant. I accept responsibility for assisting my son/daughter to live up to the responsibilities and obligations of a Brookside Charter School program participant as outlined.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Date: