

Parent & Student

Athletic Handbook



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I Philosophy and Goals

PHILOSOPHY

The key to a successful athletic program is Christ-centered, competent leadership. We must have leaders who emphasize the thrill of participation and the challenge of doing one's best. Our school, players, and spectators must recognize that sports is not an activity in which we suspend Christian values. We should be known for our outstanding sportsmanship and should display Christian principles in all parent and player interactions involving sports.

Keene Adventist Elementary School believes that being a Christian athlete requires commitment and sacrifice. Every student who commits to the athletic program will learn valuable lessons about being a better Christian, and must strive to be dignified, honest, moral, forgiving, understanding, and responsible.

KEENE ADVENTIST ATHLETIC GOALS

GLORIFY JESUS CHRIST

Glorifying Jesus Christ is our ultimate goal. No matter what we accomplish - how many games and championships we win, how many records we set, how many individual honors we attain - if we do not glorify our Savior we are failures and all of our accomplishments are worthless.

TREAT OTHERS WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Players, coaches, and referees deserve to be valued and respected.

EXHIBIT INTEGRITY AND CLASS

Integrity and class involve winning with honor and being gracious in a loss. It is keeping your poise and self-control when the other team is talking trash and taking cheap shots. It is refusing to make excuses or blaming others (refs, teammates, coaches, etc.) for a loss.

WORK HARD

Working hard involves more than just doing what is required. In all games and practices, no matter how little or insignificant the task, players should make the commitment to do everything to the best of their ability.

II - TEAMS

TRYOUTS

Although we would prefer to allow every athlete to participate in any sport, there are circumstances that may require try-outs and the “selection” of athletes.

Some of the reasons for selection may include:

1. The number of athletes that tryout for a particular sport
2. Limited number of teams (due to league restrictions)
3. Limited number of coaches
4. Limited amount of field or court availability

“Playing up” - Because we do not currently have 1st -4th grade Athletics, 4th graders may play up for elementary teams. However 6th graders may only play up to JH if we do not have enough players to field a JH team.

GAME SCHEDULES/MAPS/DIRECTIONS

Maps and directions to games may be viewed online by visiting the Athletics section of the school website, <http://www.kaes4kids.com>.

1. Click on the Athletics Tab
2. Click on the desired sport
3. Click on the event listed on the calendar for up to date info on that specific contest.

In the event of late game cancellations (due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances), students will be notified as soon as possible and are encouraged to call their parents. We encourage all parents to check the website prior to every game.

TRANSPORTATION

Every effort will be made to utilize school provided transportation. Players are encouraged to travel to games as a team. In the event that school transportation is unavailable, parents will be responsible to get their child to the game on time.

PLAYING TIME

Every athlete will receive coaching instruction during practice, however an athlete’s playing time during games will be decided by the head coach. Efforts will be made to include all players throughout the season, however there will be times when an athlete won’t participate in a game. As a general rule of thumb, in “close” games the players considered by the coach to have higher skill levels will be given the most consideration.

III – COMMUNICATION

Clear communication between parents and coaches will create a positive athletic experience.

- A. Communication you can expect from your child’s coach:
 - 1. Location and times of all practices (games are posted on the website)
 - 2. Team requirements
 - 3. Notification of any injuries during participation
- B. Communication coaches can expect from parents:
 - 1. Specific health concerns or injuries dealing with your child
 - 2. Notification of any practice or game schedule conflicts well in advance

Please do not confront a coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional moments. Meetings of this nature are not likely to promote a positive resolution. Coaches are charged to make judgment decisions based on what they believe is best for the team. The following decisions must be left to the coach: playing time, position assignments, team strategy, and play calling.

For other concerns, follow these procedures when discussing your concerns with a coach:

- 1. Contact the coach by phone or email to set an appointment. Coaches have been instructed not to engage in dialog with a parent until an appropriate appointment time can be set.
- 2. Describe your specific areas of concern.
- 3. Limit your discussion to your own child.

If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment with the athletic director and the coach to discuss the situation. At this meeting the next appropriate steps can be determined.

IV – POLICIES

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A. Students who received a quarter grade lower than 70% in any subject area in the previous quarter of the current school year are not eligible to tryout or play on a KAES athletic team.
- B. Team members must maintain a 70% or higher in all subjects. Weekly failing grade reports will be reviewed by the Athletic Director. Anyone with a grade lower than 70% in a subject in back to back weeks will receive a mandatory one game suspension to be served in the 1st game that week. Upon returning from the one game suspension, all grades in all subjects must be 70% or above at the beginning of the next week. If there are grades below 70% the player will be considered ineligible to play for at least one week, and every week thereafter until such time as all core subjects are restored to 70% or higher.

If the player is cleared for at least one week, the process would start over with back to back failing grades.

Teachers may sign off to excuse a grade only if there was some type of mistake made by the teacher that caused a grade to be below 70%.

- C. Any player considered to be ineligible due to grades:
 - 1. May - Attend all team practices.
 - 2. May Not – Participate in games, sit on the player bench, wear the uniform, or travel with the team.

ATTENDANCE

- A. Team members will be expected to attend the full school day of a game. If a team member is going to be absent on the day of a game they must provide a doctor's note to the athletic director to be eligible to play. If a player is found to be in violation of this policy, they will be considered ineligible for the next game.
- B. Athletes who miss practices and/or games may not be as well prepared to contribute to the team's success as those athletes who are present. Coaches use practices and games to evaluate their players skill level and determine playing time.

CHARACTER

- A. All players are expected to exhibit a character that represents the school in a positive manner at all times. Players must maintain an 85% or higher in their citizenship grade to be able to be part of a sports team. If a player's citizenship grade drops below an 85% during the season, the player will be removed from the team.
- B. The previous quarter's grades will be used as a new sport begins to determine eligibility.

MEDICAL

- A. All athletes must have a sports physical each year. A signed copy must be on file with the office. (Must use the approved CSAF Form)
- B. Any injury which requires medical attention must be reported within 24 hours to the head coach and the athletic director. The athletic director will file a Student Accident Report for insurance purposes.
- A. Keene Adventist Elementary carries a secondary insurance policy that covers some expenses that are not covered by parents' personal insurance policy.
- C. An athlete that has had medical treatment due to an injury cannot participate again until the date indicated by the student's doctor.
- D. Required athletic forms may be picked up at the KAES administration office.

V – PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The conduct of KAES athletes should always demonstrate integrity and sportsmanship. In every situation, our athletes must remember that they are representing Jesus Christ as well as Keene Adventist Elementary School.

- A. Any misconduct by a student athlete that is determined by the head coach and school administration to be detrimental to the athletic program or school will result in counseling by the head coach, athletic director, and a school administrator with possible suspension.
- B. Any team member suspended from school will also be suspended from the athletic team for the same time period.

GAME EXPECTATIONS

- A. Never question an official about a call, whether you are participating in or observing a game.
- B. Any display of unsportsmanlike conduct toward an official or opponent could result in a suspension from the team. An ejection from a game will result in a one game suspension.
- C. When cheering for a KAES team, only cheer FOR the Eagles. There is NEVER any reason to cheer against the other team. Athletes at KAES should never be involved in negative behavior to an opponent. Always treat the visiting school as guests before, during, and after the games.
- D. Athletes at KAES should never start or contribute in any way to a fight on or off the field or court. No player should ever leave the bench during a fight.1st
- E. Never abuse or misuse the facilities of another school. Remember, you are a guest.

VI – PARENT EXPECTATIONS

BE SUPPORTIVE OF COACHES

Be supportive and positive of the coaches' decisions In front of your child. If you have a problem with what the coach is doing, it is best to talk privately with the coach at the appropriate designated time. (See the Parent / Coach Communication section) When your child is on the field or court, let the coach do the coaching.

TEACH RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY

There will be times when you disagree with a coach or official but always remember they are trying their best and are trying to be fair. Show good sportsmanship by being positive.

MODEL GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

When cheering for a KAES team, only cheer FOR the Eagles. There is NEVER any reason to cheer against or “taunt” the other team. Never question or “boo” an official about a call. Parents displaying poor sportsmanship may be asked to leave the gym or field and may be asked not to attend future games as well. In extreme cases a parent may be asked to withdraw their child from the team.