

Athletics

The major reason for the St. John's athletic program is to have fun and enjoy participating in an activity. We always strive to win, but that is not the main focus. Our most important victory is building self-esteem and the development of positive social skills. Officials and opponents are not enemies; they are always to be treated with the utmost respect. Arguing with or denigrating teammates is never tolerated. This spirit of respect, cooperation and friendship applies as well to coaches, parents, cheerleaders and fans. It is our goal that participation in this league be a positive experience for all involved. For some students and parents, this philosophy may not be consistent with theirs. We respect this and suggest they find other programs compatible with their ideas.

Coaches will make all decisions based on what they feel is in the best interest of the team as a whole. Playing time, players' positions, and strategy are determined solely at the discretion of the coach. Parents are not to confront a coach at a game or practice. If there is a concern to discuss, please contact the St. John's Athletic Directors.

Students are eligible to play on a St. John's athletic team if they are in good academic and behavioral standing. If a student misses a class during the school day for any reason other than an unchangeable doctor's appointment, he or she may not be eligible to compete in an interscholastic game/match on that day. An excused absence requires a formal, signed doctor's note at the time the student signs into school late. Otherwise, all student athletes must be at school by 8:15am in order to be eligible to play in a contest that day. The principal may determine that a student is ineligible because of academic or disciplinary reasons.

A student athlete may participate in one sport per season. A player committed to a sport may not quit that sport during the season to begin practices for the next sports season. Students playing on a non-St. John's team are expected to prioritize their school's sport in the event of schedule conflict.

It is our hope that everyone who wants to play can be placed on a team. Coaches try to avoid "cutting" from any sport. Exception: Tennis teams (boys and girls) are limited to 11 athletes per team. At the beginning of each season, try-outs will be held to determine team placement. Seventh and eighth graders are eligible to play at the varsity level, although it is possible for exceptional sixth graders to participate at this level. Fifth grade athletes may participate in Cross Country, Track and Field, and Tennis.

Teams will usually be transported to away games, and to off-campus practices by bus. All students must travel together. Typically, all team members will need to be driven home by their parents. They must check out individually with the coach before leaving. Students represent St. John's School when they travel. They must be on their best behavior. Seat belts are required to be worn at all times when available in the vehicle.

Athletic uniforms are loaned to athletes at the beginning of each season, and uniforms must be returned to the coach within two weeks of the end of each season. A replacement fee of \$100 will be assessed to lost, non-returned, or damaged uniforms. Athletes will not be given a uniform for another sport until the prior season uniform has either been returned or the \$100 fee has been paid.

Athletic Teams by Season

Fall: Boys' Soccer (6th-8th), Girls' Volleyball (6th-8th), Cross Country (5th-8th)

Winter: Boys' and Girls' Basketball (6th-8th), Girls' Soccer (6th-8th), Track and Field (5th-8th)

Spring: Boys' Baseball (6th-8th), Girls' Softball (6th-8th), Boys' and Girls' Tennis (5th-8th)