

St. John's Lutheran School
Athletic Handbook
2023-2024
Mid-Michigan Athletic Lutheran League

Wildcat Parents,

Our school is a member of the Mid-Michigan Lutheran League. The purpose of this league is to help its members organize and administer various athletic programs.

As redeemed children of God, we must guard against the temptation to compromise our Christian values in areas of sportsmanship and competition. Difficult as it can be at times, they can and should go hand in hand.

God's Word tells us in Gal. 5:22: ***“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things, there is no law.”***

The dictionary defines a sportsman as: “a person who can take a loss without complaint, or victory without gloating, and who treats opponents with fairness, generosity, and courtesy.”

A ***Christian*** and a ***true sportsman*** can be one and the same. This is our goal – ***Christian sportsmanship***.

Even in the heat of competition, yes, even if we feel wronged, let's make every effort to show courtesy and respect for all others. This is God's plan. Then whether we are participants or spectators, God's name will be glorified!

We also ask that you be responsible for the conduct of your children attending these activities.

In His Service,
Ian Paulsen,
Athletic Director

Objectives

Through athletics, the Mid-Michigan Lutheran League seeks to instill and develop:

- Appreciation for and attitudes toward developing and maintaining the body which God has so fearfully and wonderfully made.
- Knowledge of the procedures and skills needed to participate in athletics in a supervised or leisurely situation.
- A mastery of athletics that will promote physical well-being.
- A concept of cooperation and teamwork.
- A respect for authority.
- A true Christian fellowship based on love and respect for fellow Christians.
- An appreciation for all athletic activities.

Introduction

This handbook is intended to inform and guide all concerned so that our athletic programs are conducted in a consistent, orderly, and God-pleasing manner. As members of the Mid-Michigan Lutheran League (M.A.L.L.) we are also subject to the policies and decisions that govern that organization. We ask that you carefully note and help maintain the following guidelines, as adopted by our Board of Education.

Purpose

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – which is your spiritual worship.” Rom. 21:1

The purpose of our athletic program is to help the children of St. John's Lutheran School learn to use their bodies and abilities in a God-pleasing manner. A Christian environment, directed by God-fearing leaders, serves well to foster the spiritual, mental, and physical growth of each child.

Goals

- To offer opportunities to use special talents and interests to the glory of God.
- To provide a wholesome setting for Christian fellowship.
- To learn the importance of cooperation and teamwork, proper respect for others, as well as, personal responsibilities.
- To offer opportunities for learning and practicing Christian sportsmanship.
- To further develop physical skills and strategies needed to enjoy and appreciate activities in the future.

M.A.L.L. ACTIVITIES

- We are members of the Mid-Michigan Lutheran League. Through this body we offer the following opportunities:
- Co-Ed Soccer and Cross Country -----September
- Basketball Girls’-----October – November
- Basketball Boys’-----January – March
- Co-Ed Volleyball -----March - April
- Track & Field -----May

In addition to league-sponsored activities, we also offer cheerleading.

Coaching

Our called workers will serve as coaches as their time, interest, and/or abilities allow. Head coaches **must** be WELS members. **All other** coaching will be under the direction of the athletic director, who will be a called worker on our staff and the Board of Education.

Eligibility

Except for cheerleading and cross-country, participation will be limited to students in grades 5-8. Any other exceptions, due to fluctuations in enrollment or interest will be made with the consent of the Board of Education.

As representatives of our church and school, all participants are expected to demonstrate and maintain a high standard of church attendance, scholarship, conduct, and attitudes that are in keeping with their God-given gifts and abilities. Our faculty on a regular basis will review these standards. The athletic director will determine eligibility after receiving pertinent information from the classroom teacher. As a general rule, a student will have limited playing time if he/she has more than three late assignments outstanding.

Also, in order to play, the families of the players that are participating must either be up to date on their school fees or have spoken with the board of education outlining how they are going to become up to date on their school fees or the student may not be able to play.

Cooperation, courtesy, and kindness (sportsmanship) are expected of God’s children at all times. Commitment to regular and prompt attendance is expected for all practices, games, and worship services, as scheduled. Parental excuse is to be given to the coach if the child must be

absent for any reason for all practices and games. If there is a problem with attendance, attitude, or cooperation, the coach may reduce practice and/or playing time.

Parents

Your support and cooperation are critical if these activities are to serve in helping the children to grow and mature spiritually, mentally, and physically. Your own example is however the most effective!

You are expected to be responsible for:

- Supporting your child, the coaches, and the team's efforts by attending games as often as possible and setting an example of God-pleasing sportsmanship.
- Excusing for any absence, (school, practice, or games).
- Proper care and prompt return of uniforms.
- Arranging and providing transportation for team members as needed.
- Arranging for the care and transportation of all who are not team members.

Athletic fees

- At the beginning of each season, the athletic staff will determine what volunteer participation is required by each player's family (how many home games, tournaments, etc.).
- Each team will conduct a parent meeting and will communicate how many volunteer spots need to be filled. If the parent fulfills their volunteer requirement, \$35 of the \$50 will be returned via FACTS to the player upon uniform return. The exception to this is If the child's tuition is not up-to-date, the \$35 will be applied to tuition.
- We will plan to work with the SJL Teen group to fill in for families who choose not to volunteer, the \$35 will be used to pay the Teens or other high school students to work the games.
- Note that coaches (and spouses) will not be required to fill slots; coaching the kids is their volunteer contribution.

Sports Schedule '23-'24

Soccer – 2023

Sept. 7, Thur. – 4:00 pm @ and vs. Trinity

Sept. 12, Tues. – 4:30 pm @ and vs. Chesaning

Sept. 15, Fri. – 5:00 pm @ and vs. Owosso

Sept. 19, Tues. – 4:00 pm our HOME game @ Kawkawlin and vs. Bethel

Sept. 21, Thur. - 4:00 pm our HOME game @ Kawkawlin and vs. Kawkawlin

Sept. 26, Tues. - 5:00 pm our HOME game @ Kawkawlin and vs. Midland

Sept. 28, Thur. - 4:00 pm our HOME game @ Trinity and vs. Trinity

Sept. 30, Sat. - Tournaments in Chesaning and Kawkawlin

Co-Ed Cross Country 2023

September 13 and/or September 27- DeVries Nature Conservatory

September 20- Wickes Park Saginaw, MI

Girls' Basketball – 2023

Oct. 17, Tues.- 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm B-team and A-team @ HOME vs. Sag/Hem

Oct. 20, Fri. – 5:30 pm A-team only @ and vs. Lansing; 5:30 pm B-team @ Tawas

Oct. 21, Sat. B-team Tournament @ Trinity, Times TBD

Oct. 24, Tues. –5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ SJBC vs. Kaw/Mid(Their home game)

Oct. 27, Fri. - 5:30 pm, B-team @ Bethel, A-team @ Owosso

Nov. 1, Wed. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ and vs. Trinity

Nov. 3, Fri. - 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ HOME vs. Trinity

Nov. 7, Tues. –5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ HOME vs. Bethel

Nov. 10, Fri. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team @ HOME vs. Tawas, A-team @ HOME vs. Ssg/Hem

Nov. 14, Tues. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ and vs. Bethel

Nov. 17, Fri. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-team and A-team @ HOME vs. Kaw/Mid

Dec. 1-2,- MALL A-team Tournament @ SJBC hosted by SJ Saginaw

Dec. 8-9- MLS A-team Tournament @ Michigan Lutheran Seminary

Boys' Basketball – 2023

Jan. 9, Tues – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ and vs. Owosso

Jan. 12, Fri. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ HOME vs. Chesaning

Jan. 16, Tue.-5:30 pm & 6:30 pm, B-Team & A-Team@HOME vs.Kaw/Mid/Sag(Their home game)

Jan. 19, Fri.- 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ HOME vs. Trinity

Jan. 20, Sat.- B-Team Tournament @ Tawas

Jan. 23, Tues. -5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ HOME vs. Bethel

Jan. 26, Fri. —5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ and vs. Bethel

Jan. 30, Tues. – 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ Grand Blanc vs. Burton

Feb. 2, Fri.- 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ HOME vs. Kaw/Mid/Sag

Feb. 6, Tues.- 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm, B-Team and A-Team @ and vs. Trinity

Feb. 9-10, Fri.-Sat.- MLS A-team Boys Tournament

Feb. 13, Tues. 5:30 pm, B-team @ HOME vs. Tawas, 6:30 pm A-team @ HOME vs. Lansing

Feb.17, Sat.- M.A.L.L. Tournament @SJBC hosted by SJBC

Co-Ed Volleyball – 2023

March 8, Fri. – BETHEL

1st match-4pm	2nd match-4:45pm	3rd match-5:30pm	4th match-6:15pm
Bethel vs SJBCa,	SJBCb vs Chesaning,	Chesaning vs SJBCa,	SJBCb vs Bethel

March 12, Tues.- TAWAS

1st match-4pm	2nd match-4:45pm	3rd match-5:30pm	4th match-6:15pm
SJBCb vs Tawas,	SJBCa vs Trinity,	SJBCb vs Trinity,	SJBCa vs Tawas

March 15, Fri. - HOME

1st match-4pm	2nd match-4:45pm	3rd match-5:30pm	4th match-6:15pm
Tawas vs SJBCa	SJBCa vs Owosso	Tawas vs SJBCb	SJBCa vs Owosso

March 19, Tues.-HOME

1st match-4pm	2nd match-4:45pm	3rd match-5:30pm	4th match-6:15pm
SJBCa vs Midland	SJBCb vs Owosso	Midland vs SJBCb	SJBCa vs Owosso

March 23, Sat. – Volleyball Tournament at Bay City Central HS

M.A.L.L. Track & Field Day – May 24, 2024, 9:00 am @ Garber High School

MLS Track & Field Day—May 29, 2024, 10:00 am arrival @ Cardinal Field

School Addresses/Locations

St. John's, Saginaw-- 4705 Brockway Road, Saginaw, MI, 48638

- Soccer Field-- School Location
- Girls Basketball/ Volleyball-- Christ Shields Gym
- Boys Basketball-- St. John's, Bay City, Trinity, Bay City

Good Shepherd, Midland-- 907 Mattes Drive, Midland, MI 48642

- Soccer Field-- Fournie Park
- Basketball-- St. John's, Bay City, Trinity, Bay City

Bethel, Bay City-- 749 North Pine Road, Bay City, MI 48708 (

- Soccer Field-- School Location
- Basketball--School Location

Emanuel, Tawas-- 300 North St. W. Tawas City, MI 48763

- Soccer Field-- N/A
- Basketball-- School Location

Good Shepherd, Burton-- 5496 Lippincott Blvd. Burton, MI 48519

- Soccer Field-- Potentially School Location
- Basketball-- Grand Blanc Gym

Trinity, Bay City-- 2515 Broadway St. Bay City, MI 48708

- Soccer Field--School Location
- Basketball-- 1907 Broadway St, Bay City, Mi

Emanuel, Lansing-- 1001 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing, Michigan 48906

- Soccer Field--Hope Soccer Complex
- Basketball-- School Location

St. John, Hemlock-- 2290 Pretzer Road, Hemlock, MI 48626

- Soccer Field--St. John's, Saginaw
- Basketball-- Christ Shields Gym

Zion, Chesaning-- 796 Hampton St, Chesaning, MI 48616

- Soccer Field--School Location
- Basketball-- Christ Shields Gym, Salem, Owosso

St. Bartholomew, Kawkawlin-- 1033 E Beaver Rd, Kawkawlin, MI 48631

- Soccer Field--School Location
- Basketball-- St. John's, Bay City, Trinity, Bay City

St. Luke's, Vassar-- 1056 Wels Ln. Vassar, MI 48768

- Soccer Field-- N/A
- Basketball--

Salem, Owosso -- 520 W. Stewart St., Owosso, MI 48867

- Soccer Field--Hugh Parker Soccer Complex
- Basketball-- School Location

St. John's, Bay City-- 210 S. Alp Street, Bay City, MI 48706

- Soccer Field-- School Location
- Basketball-- School Location