

- Ensure the safety of all team members.
- Be aware of and utilize injury-prevention measures.
- Keep up to date with new information about the sport(s) being coached.
- Endeavor to help assistants develop professionally.
- Be accessible to talk to athletes and parents.

Lettering

To letter you must attend 100% of the games and 95% of the practices unless injured or excused by the coach. Injured players must attend practices and games.

Each athlete, parent and spectator must read through the TCS Athletic Handbook. You are required to know this information and abide by the same rules as the students (i.e. dress code, etc.) Report any problems with athletes, parents, fans, or any other person(s) to the Athletic Director.

Contact Information

School Office	365-1050	358-7051 (Fax)
Athletic Director:	Worth Waters	365-1050 ext 286
Email:	wwaters@thetabsarasota.org	
Website:	www.thetabsarasota.org	

THE TABERNACLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart
as working for the Lord, and not for men”

Colossians 3:23

2009-2010

School Mission Statement

Our mission is to lead every student to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and develop the spirit, mind, and body of each student to see life from a biblical point of view.

Athletic Mission Statement

May God help us to build character through competition, passionately inspire a devotion to excellence, and develop champions for Christ.

Philosophy of Athletics

We believe that competition presents challenges similar to those that every person may one day face. Although these challenges may be on a smaller scale, the ways in which we overcome them and the lessons that we learn from them are the same. The Tabernacle Christian School's Athletic Program is dedicated to developing character through sports. We strive to promote working together in oneness to conquer fears, to overcome obstacles, to look for lessons and motivation in loss and for humility and opportunity in victory.

Most importantly, we strive to honorably represent our Lord Jesus Christ and to advance His kingdom through our words, thoughts, and deeds. At The Tabernacle Christian School, we recognize a battle far greater than any sports arena: a battle for people's eternal souls.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

No person, on the grounds of gender, race, color, national or ethnic origin, is excluded or otherwise subjected to receiving services at TCS; nor does TCS hire or assign staff on the basis of gender, race, color, national or ethnic origin.

Character

Christians are commanded to be different from the world around them and this includes athletics (Isaiah 55:8, 9). We operate from a different perspective because Jesus Christ is the center of all our attention both on and off the athletic field/floor. We are to have His attitudes, actions, and moral mindset. (Philippians 2:5; Romans 8:28). These include:

- Dependability. Athletes should be at all the practices and games unless excused by the coach. Do what is expected in all situations.
- Punctuality. Be on time for games and practices. Never be late!
- Love. Be self-sacrificing and show real concern for team members, coaches and opponents. Remember, Christ centered His love upon others, not Himself.
- Enthusiasm. Take an interest in every part of your sport and be glad

Expectations of Players, Coaches and Parents at Athletic Events

We want to encourage proper behavior from everyone in attending our games. Below is a list, while not all-inclusive, is the desired behavior from our players, coaches, and parents. Our behavior should be centered in acting as God desires us to act. Each item in the list should be viewed through the eyepiece of God's word and how He wants us to behave.

Parents

- Encourage and support their child.
- Be a fan of all team members.
- Don't approach coaches with negative issues on the day of a game.
- Show consideration for other players, spectators, and coaches.
- Approach their child with questions before talking to the coaches. When talking to a coach be sure to follow the protocol set in place by the school.
- Always be courteous to officials even when you disagree with a call.
- Don't speak negatively about the athletic program or personnel. Meet with the person you have a concern with to share your feelings as God commands us to in Matthew 15.

Players

- If you have a question or concern speak directly to the coach.
- Inform the coach of schedule problems ahead of time.
- Be encouraging to teammates and present a positive attitude.
- Fulfill academic requirements.
- Understand and abide by school and players regulations.
- Set high goals to improve as an individual and an athlete.
- Work hard.

Coaches

- Be a good role model for the athletes and fans.
- Communicate well with the athletes and their families.
- Be certain that athletes know what is expected of them and the requirements for lettering for the sport.
- Organize daily practice sessions for the team.
- Distribute practice and game schedules to all parties.
- Deal fairly and consistently with all athletes.
- Monitor the academic status of each team member.
- Keep an accurate account of all equipment
- Put careful thought into decisions of playing time and other important issues.

practice after the detention (extra running may be required). A student receiving a detention may miss a game for that day. Detention must be served on the assigned day regardless of the sports calendar.

Excessive detentions will result in a conference with the coach, athlete, parents, and Athletic Director to determine the status of the athlete. Dismissal from the team may result.

Suspensions

Suspended athletes may not play in the next scheduled game and will not be allowed to practice during the suspension period. Two suspensions during the season will result in dismissal from the team.

Injuries

All injuries, no matter how minor in nature, should be documented using the forms available in the office. The completed documentation should then be given to the Athletic Director. If an athlete must see a physician for an injury, the athlete will not be allowed to resume practicing or competing without the physician's consent. However, an athlete should make every effort to still attend practice and games even while injured.

Team Pictures

A picture day for each sport will be scheduled prior to the start of the season, during the season, or even at the end of the season. All athletes are required to be at the picture day. Picture order forms will be distributed to the athletes by the coach or Athletic Director.

Uniforms and Equipment

The coach or Athletic Director will issue uniforms before each game. The athlete will return the uniforms at the conclusion of the game to be laundered. Lost or damaged uniforms must be paid for in full.

All uniforms and school owned equipment must be turned in immediately following the last game of the season.

Volunteers

Volunteers help run our programs in a significant way. Examples of volunteer work would be running the scoreboard, keeping the score book, keeping stats, selling concessions, etc.

to quickly carry out every area of the job.

- Faith. Show that you know the Lord is in control of all circumstances and He is carrying out His will in your life.
- Humility. Display by your attitude that God is the One responsible for all abilities, talents and success you achieve.
- Endurance. All must be able to withstand stress, hard work and the challenges that all Christian athletes experience.
- Boldness. Be ready to boldly express what Jesus Christ has done for you. The Christian athlete cannot be one who is timid or gives up.

Facilities

- The Lord has blessed us tremendously with fantastic facilities. We must be good stewards of what God has given us. Always leave the area cleaner than you find it. Destructiveness or misuse of property will not be acceptable.
- For cleanliness of the building, no cleats are permitted indoors.

Pre-Season

Individual meetings will be held with students and parents prior to each season to share information regarding the upcoming season as well as to collect all necessary documentation from all athletes. Athletes who do not attend the meeting are responsible to for getting this information to their coach. No athlete may participate in any sport until we have the following on record:

- Physical
- Medical History and Authorization
- Athletic Fee

If you have any questions related to any of the above, contact the Athletic Director, Coach Waters at 365-1050 ext 286.

Game Schedules

Athletes will be given a game schedule for each sport. Directions to all away contests may be obtained in the main office. Game schedules and directions will also be posted on line at www.thetabsarasota.org.

Team Selection

Athletes will not be cut from a team on the basis of lack of ability, unless the coach or Athletic Director feel it is in the best interest of the individual and/or athletic program. This may include consideration for the number of available uniforms respective to that sport. Selection of team members is the responsibility of the coach. The procedures for selecting team members for

each sport will be announced by the coach prior to team tryouts. Due to the nature of a competitive sports league, all athletes may not receive equal playing time. Athletes are strongly encouraged to attend open gyms, summer leagues, sports camps, etc.

In-Season

All necessary information and fees must be collected from the athlete prior to participation.

An athlete may participate in more than one sport during the same season if approval has been obtained from both coaches involved and the Athletic Director.

No athlete removed from or who removes him/herself from an athletic team will be permitted to begin practice with another sport until the final contest has been played by the team on which he/she was involved, unless special permission to do so has been granted by the head coaches of the two sports involved and the Athletic Director.

Academic Expectations

A periodic check of grades will be conducted to determine eligibility for athletic participation.

Students must maintain a “C-” average in the five core classes (Bible, Math, History, English and Science). A grade lower than a “C-” will result in academic probation and the student will not be able to practice or participate in sporting events.

Students may regain full privileges in the sports program when grade(s) have been raised to a “C-” average. Students’ academic standing will be evaluated on Friday of each week.

If an athlete is ineligible four times during a sports season, they will be ineligible and unable to participate for the remainder of that season.

Practices

Every practice begins with a devotion and prayer given by a coach or athlete. Each practice concludes in prayer as well.

If a practice must be cancelled, the Athletic Director will get the word out to all the athletes. Cancellation of practices should be only due to emergencies. Every effort will be made to avoid such cancellations.

Students are to be out of the building and either picked up or sent to extended care immediately following practice. Students are not to be in any area of the building other than the practice area without the coach accompanying them.

Absence and Tardiness – Practice

- Doctor and dentist appointments, or any other appointments should be scheduled around practices and games. Coaches determine whether an athlete is excused or unexcused from practice.
- Unexcused absences or tardiness will result in some form of discipline (i.e., extra running).
- Excessive absences or tardiness will result in a conference with the coach, athlete, parents and the Athletic Director to determine the status of the athlete. Dismissal from the team may result.

Absence and Tardiness-Game

- Athletes may not miss games for doctors or dentist appointments.
- Unexcused absences or tardiness will result in that athlete sitting out that game, or the next scheduled game.
- Students may only participate in a sporting event if they have attended school for at least four hours of the school day. Any student who leaves school due to illness may not return on the same day and participate in a sporting event.

Bus Seating

The following policy is in effect whenever male and female students travel on the school bus together:

Female students will sit in the rear of the bus and male students will sit in front of the bus.

Coaches/chaperones will sit in the rows of seats between the male and female students as well as throughout the bus.

No personal electronic devices are allowed. Cell phones may be used only to call for rides, or in an emergency.

Detentions

Detentions must be served on the day they are assigned, regardless of the sports calendar. Athletes receiving detentions on a game day may not play that day. Athletes receiving detention on a practice day are required to attend