



VALLEY Christian School

Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Rom. 12:2

2023-2024 Athletic Handbook

Administrator: Kathy Thompson
Athletic Director: Jenn Rosenow

Valley Christian School is a parent owned, non-denominational private school. Valley Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, nationality, or ethnic origin in its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and any other school administered programs.

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1.0 Valley Christian School Organization and Administration

1.1 Statement of Non-discrimination

Valley Christian School is a parent owned, non-denominational private school that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, nationality, or ethnic origin in its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and any other school administered programs.

1.2 Valley Christian School Board

The Valley Christian School Board is responsible for the direction and operation of Valley Christian School.

1.2 Valley Christian School Administrator

The administrator shall assure optimum standards of practice in the operation of the school and staff, as directed by the Valley Christian School Board.

2.0 Athletic Program Purpose and Objectives

2.1 Athletics at Valley Christian School

The purpose of athletics at VCS is to be an additional means to fulfill the VCS mission. The program is designed to encourage our student athletes to bring glory to God by giving their best effort in practice and games, develop a strong team bond, and demonstrate Christ-like character in the heat of athletic competition.

2.2 Program Objectives

- To provide the best possible instruction to learn the skills of competitive and lifetime activities.
- To develop within the students the determination and dedication necessary to complete their chosen goals.
- To develop the self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-understanding necessary for a successful life.
- To develop willingness to place the good of the group before the desires of the individual.
- To teach that a consequence follows the violation of a rule.
- To provide a “whole school” interest and activity that will develop school pride in all students.
- To provide opportunities to exemplify and observe good sportsmanship.
- To provide the opportunities for developing lasting friendships, both with teammates and opponents.
- To provide a foundation for building good school morals/morales and community involvement.

2.3 Levels of Competition

2.3.1 Middle School (Grades 6-8)



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Middle School participants differ from older students as their rates of physical, mental, and emotional developments differ widely among students of the same age group. Students at these ages also have the ability to progress and improve rapidly given adequate resources. Programs at these grade levels should recognize the special needs and capabilities of these students. Equal resources should be devoted to all participants at these grade levels regardless of skill level. Facilities access, equipment, and quality coaching should be equal regardless of skill level. Competitive contests should be made available to students at their skill level. Students who have the ability to compete at the highest levels of their age group should be given the opportunity to do so. All participants who improve should have the ability to move up and compete at a higher skill level. Students should leave the middle school program with a firm grasp of fundamentals of the activities they choose. Coaching at this level should focus on the teaching and retention of fundamentals and positive reinforcement in teaching those fundamentals. Although competition at this age level can foster increased interest, it is just as important that these participants receive enough practice time in order to learn fundamentals. As far as possible, Middle School students will receive equal playing time.

2.3.2 High School Jr Varsity

JV teams focus primarily on preparing for varsity competition later in their high school careers. The values of sportsmanship, commitment, and work ethic, etc. are all emphasized, and team success and preparation for advancement to the varsity are of increasing consideration. The more highly skilled participants are going to get more playing time at this level.

2.3.3 Varsity

Emphasis on sportsmanship, commitment, team play, academic success, and strict adherence to rules and procedure is at the highest level. Team success and accomplishment are clearly emphasized. The players in games are going to be those who show the highest skill levels and the highest degree of commitment. It is hoped that situations will allow participation in games by as many members of the team as possible, but team success and accomplishment will be a priority. It is also hoped that by this level, players are clearly aware of their roles on the team. Players' roles may range from that of a valuable practice participant to that of one who participates in all of the games. Each participant shall be respected for his/her commitment to the team.

2.4 Valley Christian School Mission Statement

The mission of Valley Christian School, as an extension of the Christian home, is to provide Biblically based instruction and encouragement so that every student may reach their potential of academic, spiritual, and physical development, and live a life of love and service to God and others.

2.5 Valley Christian School Statement of Faith



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The Word of God: We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

The Trinity: We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

God the Father: We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ: We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, true God and true man, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, and ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible future return to earth.

The Holy Spirit: We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide.

Regeneration: We believe man was created in the image of God but fell from Grace with original sin. We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

The Church: We believe in the universal church; a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head, and all regenerated believers are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ.

Christian Conduct: We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellow men; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions; and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

The Return: We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal joy of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the lost.

3.0 Eligibility

3.1 Valley Christian School full-time students

- 3.1.1 A full-time student is defined as a student where Valley Christian School is responsible for programming 100% of the student's school day. A senior who has acquired all necessary credits toward graduation is not exempt from this rule.
- 3.1.2 A full-time student is eligible to participate on Valley Christian School athletic teams provided they meet age, academic standing, and all other requirements of this handbook.



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3.2 Home school students

- 3.2.1 A homeschool student is defined as a student who:
- a) Is taught at home by a parent or legal guardian.
 - b) Is taught at home by a grandparent or older sibling.
 - c) Is taught at home, or someone else's home, by another homeschool parent, provided that it is done under the direction and supervision of the parent
 - d) Is taught at a central location for a particular subject by a homeschool parent.
 - e) Correspondence courses are considered to be home school.
 - f) Co-ops (where a group of homeschool parents gather in a central location and each parent teaches a different subject to all the students) are considered to be home school.
 - g) PSEO courses are considered to be home school provided the student is enrolled in the college as a homeschool student.
- 3.2.2 To be eligible as a homeschool student the student may not be enrolled at or be taking classes at any other public, private or charter school other than as allowed in paragraph 3.3.1.
- 3.2.3 To be eligible to participate on Valley Christian School athletic teams:
- a) The parents/guardians of the home school student must certify that the student is in good academic standing and making progress toward graduation.
 - b) A homeschool student must meet the age and all other requirements of this handbook.

3.3 Age

- 3.3.1 A high school student must be under the age of 19 before August 1 of each school year.
- 3.3.2 A 8th grade student must be under the age of 15, a 7th grade student under 14 and a 6th grade student under 13 years old before August 1 of each school year.

3.4 Academic standing

- 3.4.1 Academic standing will be evaluated at the end of each midterm and semester.
- 3.4.2 The administrator will notify the coaches and Athletic Director of any student athletes who are not in good academic standing.
- 3.4.3 A student will be ineligible to compete in a Valley Christian School athletic game for any of the following:
- a) Lower than a C- average for the previous quarter.
 - b) A grade of F in any class for the previous quarter.
- 3.4.4 For fall sports, the results of the last quarter of the previous school year will determine eligibility.



- 3.4.5 During a quarter, eligibility may be reinstated if the student raises their academic performance to an acceptable level.
- a) For any classes where the student received a D+ or lower in the previous quarter they must raise their grade to a C-.
 - b) The administrator will confer with the teachers to decide if the student's current academic performance has improved to the C- minimum requirement.
 - c) The administrator will notify the coaches and Athletic Director when a student athlete has resumed good academic standing.
 - d) If more than one F a student is ineligible for 15 scheduled school days, then the student will be eligible on the 16th eligible school day.

3.5 Attendance

- 3.5.1 An unexcused absence of one or more class periods during the week makes a student ineligible for the next contest unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the administrator.
- 3.5.2 A student must be present the entire school day to participate in practice or a scheduled contest on that day unless approved by the administrator (e.g., family emergencies, prearranged family trips, medical or dental appointments, field trips for school, a college visit, driver's license test).
- 3.5.3 Unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the administrator, a student is required to be in class at the start of the day after an athletic contest. If the student is not present, then they cannot participate on that day. Students are not excused from school the day after a contest based on the lateness of a contest.
- 3.5.4 If a student is suspended from school, they will not be allowed to participate in practices or games for the duration of the suspension.

3.6 Ineligibility for Disciplinary Reasons

A student who transfers from any school with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons retains such status at Valley Christian School for the same period as decreed by the former school.

3.7 Registration Form

- 3.7.1** The Registration Form includes pertinent information on the student, emergency medical treatment if needed and emergency contact information. Included on the Registration Form is the Concussion Agreement which indicates an understanding of what a concussion is and how it may be caused.
- 3.7.2** The Registration Form must be signed by the student and a parent/guardian stating that they have read the Athletic Handbook and agree to abide by the standards set forth.



3.7.3 The Registration Form and payment must be received before the student will be allowed to participate in any practices or games.

3.8 Participation Fee

3.8.1 The Participation Fee will be as stated on the specific registration form for each activity.

3.8.2 The Participation Fee must be received before the student will be allowed to participate in any practices.

3.9 Volunteer Hours

We acknowledge that volunteer hours are required for each sport, and we agree to fulfill required volunteer hours or issue buyout payment in lieu of.

3.9 WIAA Physical

WIAA Physical or Alternate Year Card is required for students participating in interscholastic athletics. In years when a physical exam is not required, a WIAA alternate year athletic permit card must be turned in to the school office. The physical must be on file prior to being allowed to practice.

4.0 Sportsmanship and Conduct

4.1 Behavioral Expectations

It is an honor and a privilege to participate in the various activities sponsored by Valley Christian School. There is also a corresponding duty to represent Valley Christian School well, whether at school, at games, or out in the community. Therefore, this code of conduct will apply to all students at all times (12 months a year) once they have gone out for an activity. It is required that all participants:

- 4.1.1 Display a high standard of social behavior.
- 4.1.2 Follow school rules as stated in the Valley Christian School Parent/Student Handbook.
- 4.1.3 Display outstanding sportsmanship.
- 4.1.4 Display proper respect for those in authority, including administrators, teachers, coaches, officials, and other school personnel.
- 4.1.5 Display a real spirit of cooperation.
- 4.1.6 Follow Valley Christian School's dress code at practices and games.
- 4.1.7 Use language which is socially acceptable.
- 4.1.8 Refrain from physical or emotional harm to another person or property, and from violating criminal/civil statutes.
- 4.1.9 Refrain from the illegal use, possession, purchase, or solicitation of controlled substances.



- 4.1.10 Abide by any additional conduct requirements established by coaches or advisors.
- 4.1.11 Cell phone and/or electronic device use is not permitted during any school activities at any time. This is to allow students to have the best learning and social experience possible. If a student is found to be in possession of a cell phone or electronic device, the device will be confiscated and brought to the school office, and it will not be returned until a parent comes to pick it up.
- 4.1.12 It is required that team members use the mode of transportation provided by the school for travel to and from away games.

The only exceptions to using school provided transportation will be:

- 1) Team members may travel to and from away games with their parents. Parents should notify the coach and Athletic Director in advance if they will be transporting their children to and/or from the game.
- 2) Team members may travel to and from away games with an adult immediate family member if the parents have so arranged in advance via a signed note presented to the Administrator or Athletic Director.

4.2 Conflict Resolution

Sometimes misunderstandings between coaches, players, parents and administration can result in conflicts. Left unresolved, conflicts can hurt the spirit of the team and small misunderstandings can grow to become major conflicts. It is our desire to maintain open communications and resolve conflicts promptly and with understanding by all parties.

Don't talk about the conflict with others, instead, use the following steps to reach an understanding.

- Step 1 Begin with a conference between the player and coach. Most conflicts will be resolved at this step.
- Step 2 Have a conference between the parent(s) (possibly including the player) and the coach.
- Step 3 Have a conference between the player and the Athletic Director (coach may or may not be involved in this meeting).
- Step 4 Have a conference between the parent(s) (possibly including the player) and the Athletic Director (coach may or may not be involved in this meeting).
- Step 5 Have a conference between the parent(s) (possibly including the player) with the Administrator and the Athletic Director.



Step 6 Have a conference between the parent(s) (possibly including the player) and with the Valley Christian School board.

4.2 Spectator Conduct at Athletic Contests

4.2.1 Student spectators represent their school just as the athletes do. The conduct of student spectators and others at athletic contests is as important to the climate of sportsmanship as the sportsmanship displayed by the players and coaches.

4.2.2 All spectators should:

- Refrain from abusive remarks
- Recognize fine play and sportsmanship on the parts of both teams
- Be considerate of opposing teams, players, and coaches
- Exercise self-control and personal responsibility in relation to others
- Show respect for the judgment of officials, referees, and coaches
- Acknowledge that the fields, courts, and equipment is the players' and coaches' domain during the contest.

4.2.3 Spectators who do not display good sportsmanship during a game may be asked to leave.

5.0 Disciplinary Action and Appeals

5.1 Conduct Resulting in Violations

Any of the following conduct are prohibited for all student participants and will result in disciplinary action.

- 5.1.1 Use, possession, buying or selling drugs, alcohol, look alike drugs and/or inhalants including beer, wine, and nonalcoholic products such as NA, Sharps, O'Doul's, etc.
- 5.1.2 Use, possession, buying or selling tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vapes, and e-hookahs.
- 5.1.3 Misuse of over the counter or prescription medications.
- 5.1.4 Knowingly enter a vehicle that is transporting alcoholic beverages and/or illicit substances unless he/she is under the direct supervision of his/her parents or legal guardians.
- 5.1.5 Attendance at parties/events where drugs, illicit substances, and/or alcohol are being consumed/taken by minors is prohibited. Attendance at family gatherings, sponsored by parents, where use of alcohol is occurring is not considered a violation. These exceptions include such logical events as family weddings, graduation parties, and similar occasions. This does not, however, allow use of alcohol or drugs by any student participant.
- 5.1.6 Violation of any of the Wisconsin Criminal Statutes in the following Wisconsin Criminal Statutes in the following chapters: Chap. 125 Alcohol Beverages; Chap. 161 Controlled Substances Act; Chap. 939 Crimes General Provisions;



Chap. 940 Crimes against Health and Safety; Chap. 943 Crimes against Property; Chap. 944 Sexual Morality; Chap. 945 Gambling; Chap. 946 Crimes against Government; Chap. 947 Disorderly Conduct; Chap. 948 Crimes against Animals. They shall not violate Wisconsin Traffic Statutes 346.63 Operating under Influence of Intoxicant/Other Drug; 346.63 (M.) Absolute Sobriety; 346.93 Minor Transport; 346.935 Open Intoxicants by Driver/Occupant. Further they shall not be in violation of any municipal, county ordinance or laws of other jurisdictions in conformity with the previous listed statutes. It is not necessary for a student to have been issued a citation to be considered in violation.

- 5.1.7 Willful and or persistent disrespectful behavior may result in loss of eligibility. This also includes school events, home or away.
- 5.1.8 Violation of contest or game regulations which cause ejection from an athletic contest may result in missing one additional interscholastic contest. If a student is ejected from a contest for flagrant unsportsmanlike acts they will miss the next game. If an athlete is disqualified by rules of the game (ie. Fouling out of a basketball game.) there will be no suspension required.
- 5.1.9 A student is ineligible to participate in practice or a contest while serving an in or out of school suspension.
- 5.1.10 Behavior or conduct unbecoming an activity participant.
- 5.1.11 Flagrant violation of game rules.
- 5.1.12 Engaging in any form of harassment. Harassment is defined as deliberate, repeated, or unwanted verbal or physical contact, sexually explicit derogatory statements, or sexually discriminating remarks that are offensive or objectionable to the recipient or cause the recipient discomfort or humiliation.
- 5.1.13 Hazing – defined as:
 - a) To persecute or harass with meaningless, difficult, or humiliating tasks.
 - b) To initiate, as into a college fraternity, by exacting humiliating performances from or playing rough practical jokes upon.

5.2 Conduct Violations, Penalties and Enforcement

5.2.1 Accumulation of violations

High school participants' conduct violations are accumulated over their high school grade 9-12 career.

Middle school participants' conduct violations are accumulated over their middle school grade 6-8 career.

5.2.2 Reporting of violations

If any parent, teacher, student, or coach witnesses a violation or has reliable information regarding a violation, they shall report it to the Administrator. The report should be in writing and signed and include specific details of the violation including the time and place and all involved parties.



- 5.2.3 When a report of a conduct violation is received by the Administrator, he/she will meet with the Athletic Director to determine if the report has merit and if any disciplinary action is warranted. The Athletic Director and Administrator will also speak with the student and parents/guardians before issuing any disciplinary notice.
- 5.2.4 If it is determined that disciplinary action is warranted, the Administrator will communicate a notice of disciplinary action in writing to the parents/guardians.
- 5.2.5 Guidelines for Penalties
Valley Christian School will strive to be consistent with the disciplinary action given to students. These are guidelines and some discretion will be used in determining penalties.
- 1st Offense – disqualified from participating in the next contest. This action will apply to the next sport season if there are no contests remaining in the current sport season.
- 2nd Offense – disqualified from participating in practice and games for two weeks and a minimum of one game of competition. This action will apply to the next sport season if there is less than two weeks remaining in the current sport season. The student will be disqualified for two full sport season weeks, not calendar weeks.
- 3rd Offense – disqualified from participating in the next entire sports season for any sport.
- 4th Offense – disqualified from any future participation in any sport at Valley Christian School.
- More serious code of conduct violations can result in more significant consequences. This will be determined by the school administrator and athletic director.

5.3 Due Process Procedure

- 5.3.1 If the participant and parents/guardians are not satisfied with the disciplinary decision of the Administrator and Athletic Director, they may request a hearing before the Valley Christian School Board.
- 5.3.2 The request for a hearing before the Valley Christian School Board should be submitted in writing to the President of the Valley Christian School Board within 5 days of receiving the notice of disciplinary action from the Administrator and Athletic Director.
- 5.3.3 As soon as possible but within 5 days of receiving the request for a hearing, the President of the Valley Christian School Board will arrange the date and time for the hearing in cooperation with the student and parents/guardians.
- 5.3.4 Present at the hearing will be the Athletic Director, Administrator, Valley Christian School Board and the student and parents/guardians.
- 5.3.5 The student and parents/guardians will have an opportunity to testify and present other evidence at the hearing.



- 5.3.6** Proceedings of the hearing and the decision of the Valley Christian School Board will be put in writing and mailed to the parents/guardians within 5 days of the hearing.

6.0 Reporting and Treatment of Injuries

- 6.1** All injuries must be reported to the supervising coach immediately.
- 6.2** The coach will complete the appropriate injury report and turn it into the school office within 48 hours.
- 6.3** If an injury has been discovered after the athlete has returned home from a practice or game, the coach should be notified as soon as possible.
- 6.4** If a student needs medical attention, the parents will be notified, and the student will be taken to the nearest hospital (unless parents/guardians have indicated a specific hospital for treatment).
- 6.5** In the case of an emergency, an ambulance will be called.
- 6.6** Coaches or school officials are not allowed to administer any medications, tranquilizers, aspirins, etc., to any student without written permission from the parent.
- 6.7** Prior to participation, the school office should be informed by parents/guardians of an athlete who has any special medical problems.

7.0 Amateurism

- 7.1** A student athlete may not accept, receive and/or direct to another, reimbursement in any form of salary, cash, or share of game or season proceeds for athletic accomplishments, such as being on a winning team, being selected for the school varsity team, or being a place winner in an individual tournament, etc.
- 7.2** A student athlete may receive: school mementos valued not more than \$200, an award valued at no more than \$100 retail, and may retain non-school competition apparel worn by the student as part of the team uniform.
- 7.3** A student athlete may not receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture and/or personal appearance as an athlete because of ability, potential and/or performance as an athlete. This includes receiving free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction, and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students. A student may not be identified as an athlete, provide endorsement as an athlete, or appear as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan or service. Also, an athlete violates this rule if he/she participates in a contest (school or non-school) under a name other than his/her own.

