

**Saint Francis Catholic High School, Inc.**  
**ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**  
**Parent and Student Signature REQUIRED on Reverse Side**

**Athletic Participation** Frequently, participation on an athletic team at St. Francis Catholic High School, Inc. is a commitment embarked upon through a tryout process. Coaches go to great lengths to insure sufficient time and opportunity for each student to demonstrate his or her skills to the coaching staff of a particular sport. SFCHS, Inc. is confident that each coach maintains an unbiased opinion during the selection process. When a limited number of students are allowed on a roster, the tryout process is employed as the fairest way to field the most capable athletes.

Inherent in the process is the need to inform some students that they have not qualified for the team. Selection to a team is based solely on the tryout procedure. Previous performance or involvement with a program does not influence any decision of the coach. If not chosen, an athlete should be of the attitude that he or she will do whatever is necessary to improve his or her skill and try out the next season. Parents are expected to support the coach, abide by his or her decision and encourage their child to set a goal for the next season and assist them in attaining it.

Those who are selected to be members of any team are expected to give 100% and demonstrate true sportsmanship on and off the playing arena. They are valued representatives of SFCHS, Inc. and should exhibit the Catholic values. Parents of team members must follow the same guidelines; accept and abide by the decisions of the contest officials; and respect at all times the opposing coaches, participants, cheerleaders, and fans. Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures will result in your removal from the campus. Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest. Be a fan, not a “fanatic”. There should be a total effort by all parties to continue to make the St. Francis Wolves athletic programs successful.

During the season, there may be situations that require a conference between a coach and a parent. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other’s position. When these conferences are necessary, the following should be done to promote resolution: 1) call the coach to set an appointment, 2) if the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting, 3) please do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. This can be an emotional time for both the parent and coach – meetings of this nature will not promote good dialogue or resolution. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the next step would be to set an appointment with the Athletic Director. Please refrain from immediate contact with the Principal concerning a problem. If a situation requires the Principal’s attention, the Athletic Director will direct it to that office.

**School Absence** A student may not attend a practice or a game the day of an excused or unexcused absence. A student missing 2.5 classes or more is considered absent for athletic participation.

**Academic Athletic Eligibility** FHSA policy states that as long as a student maintains a 2.0 cumulative grade point average the student will be academically eligible for participation. Additionally, it states that if a student falls below the 2.0 cumulative grade point average requirements, the student will be allowed to participate on a semester-by-semester basis if the student a) earns a 2.0 GPA on courses taken in the previous semester alone; b) signs an academic performance contract with the school, and c) attends summer school. Once however, the student enters the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, he/she must have and maintain from that point forward the 2.0 cumulative GPA to be eligible for participation.

**Athletic Playing Time** With the selection of a team, the athlete must recognize the obligation he or she has as a TEAM member. High school competition is played on a different level than recreational or club teams. Performance on other teams does not insure or deny playing time or a position on a school team. Decisions to play and assessment of athletic ability are left solely to the appointed coaches and the athletes and parents must abide by these decisions.

**Athletic Conduct Policy** Students who participate in interscholastic athletics represent St. Francis Catholic High School, Inc. and are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, as well as the rules and policies set forth by the Florida High School Athletic Association. Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege and should be regarded as such, therefore student-athletes are expected to exhibit the qualities of integrity, respect and sportsmanship at all times. The Code of Conduct applies to the student-athlete as a representative of St. Francis Catholic High School, Inc. and includes: practice, travel, games, pre and post-game conduct. Students who violate any part of the Code of Conduct or the FHSA policies while representing St. Francis Catholic High School, Inc. will be subject to disciplinary action through the Administration Office, as well as penalties handed down by the FHSA. Any misconduct by a student-athlete resulting in a fine by the FHSA will be paid for by the offending student or billed to his/her account.

**CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE**

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct – FHSAA Policy** Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for the next seven (7) calendar days at the same level, or any level, of participation at which he/she was ejected. If no contests are scheduled during this period of time at the same level of ejection, the student shall be ineligible for the next football game or a minimum of two (2) contests in any other sport. (However, an athlete ejected from a soccer game for a red card violation which is the result of two yellow cards issued for “tactical violations” shall be ineligible for the next contest at the same level of ejection. For yellow cards issued for violent and/or unsportsmanlike behavior which result in a red card, an athlete will be ineligible for a minimum period of seven (7) days AND a minimum of two (2) contests at the same level as ejected.) For all sports except football, a student ejected from any contest shall be suspended from participation for a minimum period of seven (7) days AND a minimum of two (2) contests at the same level as ejected. If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. Ejection deemed “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” will result in a six-week suspension from athletic activities. It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure the regulation is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular and post-season play.

**Suspension from School** If a student is suspended from school, he or she may not participate or practice during the suspension period.

**Dismissal/Withdrawal from a Team** If a student is dismissed or withdraws from a team; he or she may not participate or practice with another school team for the duration of the dismissed/withdrawal team’s season unless he or she has the permission of the coaches.

**Team Uniforms** All uniform items are to be returned at the completion of each season and in the same condition as they were received. Failure to return any item will result in the cost being charged to the student’s account and a hold being placed on student records.

**\* I have read the Athletic Participation Agreement and understand the information concerning Athletic Participation and will abide by all guidelines.**

**Signature required:**

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_