

Summit Christian Academy

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Athletic Handbook 2025-2026



Athletic Vision.....	1
Athletic Philosophy.....	1
Mission Statement.....	1
Athletics Purpose	1
Objective.....	2
Goals.....	2
Expectations	2
Parent Participation	3
What it Means to Win.....	3
Requirements for Coaches at Summit Christian Academy.....	5
Coaching Required Personal Qualities.....	5
Coaches Essential Functions	5
Eligibility and Participation Requirement	6
Sportsmanship.....	6
Athletes as Representatives	6
Eligibility for Participation <i>per Kentucky Christian Athlete Association (KCAA) by-laws</i>	7
Substance Abuse Policy.....	8
Attendance.....	8
Hazing.....	9
Academic Eligibility Requirements.....	9
Conduct of the Athlete	10
Physical Examination	10
Sports Permission Slip	11
Athletic Fee	11
Uniforms	11
Transportation	11
Practices.....	12
Snow Day Policy.....	12
Awards Program.....	13
Senior Night	13
Athletic Handbook Statement of Commitment	14
Permission to Photograph - Media Release	15

Athletic Vision

To continually strive for excellence in all aspects of athletics by committing to:

- A foundation centered on Jesus Christ and the revelation of God in the Bible and in Creation
- Develop athletes whose Christ-like character qualities are evident in their lives
- Build eternal values by stressing attitudes and actions in relation to God's Word
- Promote growth physically, mentally, socially, emotionally, spiritually, and morally, as well as in academic discipline
- Develop and maintain well-balanced competitive programs
- Hire, train, and retain coaches who can minister to the spiritual needs of the student as well as maximize each athlete's potential
- Involve not only the participants, but also the student body, staff, faculty, school family, and the community in supporting the athletic program
- Provide high quality facilities, equipment, and uniforms

Athletic Philosophy

Mission Statement

The mission of Summit Christian Academy is to create an environment where students receive an excellent education based on God's Word, realize their unique purpose in God's plan, and respond productively to God's call.

Summit recognizes the desirable role an athletic program plays in the life of the school. The mission of SCA Athletics is to have a strong spiritual emphasis and to achieve excellence while integrating Christian principles into the athletes' daily lives.

Athletics Purpose

Athletics is a unique ministry that provides activities for character building outside the traditional classroom setting. Biblical perspectives and appropriate responses may be taught to student athletes through the challenges, encounters, and situations found in competition. Athletics, a microcosm of life, teaches intensity, diligence, dependability, patience, and other Christ-like qualities.

Objective

The objective of SCA Athletics is to develop the athlete so that God is honored in all aspects of their lives allowing the athlete to:

- Serve others by helping their teammates and team succeed through teamwork
- Be an effective witness on and off the field/court
- Fully utilize their God-given abilities
- Realize the requirements of a work ethic
- Make sound decisions under pressure
- Handle conflict, deal with success, and cope with disappointment
- Improve playing knowledge and skill
- Develop self-discipline

Goals

Each team at SCA will set measurable goals based on the mission, purpose, and objectives of SCA Athletics.

Expectations

The SCA athlete has an obligation to conduct himself/herself at all times in a manner that is pleasing to God.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Christianity, as part of who we are, should be self-evident in our performance and actions. Good sportsmanship is expected and required to maintain team eligibility and activity participation.

SCA athletes, coaches, parents, student body and spectators will:

- **Clearly reflect the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **Maintain respect for opponents.**
- **Cheer for Summit Christian Academy, not against our opponents.**
- **Recognize and respect the position of authority granted to coaches and referees/officials.**
- **Refrain from all derogatory remarks toward any player, coach, or official.**
- **Uphold the winning tradition of SCA sports.**

When the conduct (including language) of the spectators, team member officials, or any other person is not representative of the KCAA (Kentucky Christian Athletic Association), the host Administrator or Athletic Director shall have the authority to stop the contest and warn the offender(s). Upon repetition of the offense, the Administrator or Athletic Director may resolve the situation according to his/her best judgement. Control of the KCAA is important, but officials must have and indeed do have authority over the contest at all times. For regional and state competitions, the elected officials have the authority to correct misconduct. (KCAA – Constitution and Bylaws, Article II, Section 1B).

Parent Participation

As the primary focus of Summit is to provide a quality Christian education, it is important for parents, family members and friends of student athletes to remember participation in athletic events is a privilege, not a right. Parents are encouraged to attend sporting events and cheer for their student athletes. Parents are expected to adhere to the same conditions of sportsmanship and Christian character.

It is never appropriate to cast a disparaging light on coaches, parents, spectators or other athletes by slander, manipulation, intimidation, threatening or maliciousness. Any parent, family member or friend of student athletes actively engaging in questionable behavior in the stands or away from the school, which impact student athletes or coaches may be banned from athletic events. Any parents who have issues with the way their child's coach is performing must address their issues with the Athletic Director.

What it Means to Win

At Summit, winning means much more than outscoring the opponent. It means doing everything in a way that honors the Lord and doing everything heartily, as unto the Lord.

Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”

SCA measures winning by a different standard than just the scoreboard. Winning is measured by the heart of the coach and the student athlete.

To have a more enjoyable season, we need to agree to not discuss strategy and playing time with the coaches during the game or immediately after the game.

If there is an issue with a player, coach or referee, wait at least 12 hours before sending an email, text or making a phone call. This gives everyone a chance to review all situations. If something involves safety, please notify staff immediately.

Requirements for Coaches at Summit Christian Academy

The following qualities and functions for coaches listed are taken from those necessary for teachers to be employed at SCA. These same standards apply for coaches at SCA.

Coaching Required Personal Qualities

The coach shall:

- Have received Jesus Christ as his/her personal Savior.
- Believe that the Bible is God's word and standard for faith and daily living.
- Christian role model in attitude, speech and actions towards others. This includes being committed to God's biblical standards for conduct. (Luke 6:40)
- Be a member and regular attendee at a local evangelical church, which has a statement of faith in agreement with SCA's statement of faith.
- Have spiritual maturity and personal leadership qualities to "train up a child in the way he should go."
- Demonstrate the character qualities of enthusiasm, courtesy, flexibility, integrity, gratitude, kindness, self-control, perseverance, and punctuality.
- Maintain a personal appearance that is a Christian role model of cleanliness, modesty, good taste, and in agreement with school policy.
- Notify the athletic director of any policy he/she is unable to support.

Coaches Essential Functions

The coach shall:

- Reflect the purpose of the school that is to honor Christ in every sport and in every activity.
- Motivate students to accept God's gift to salvation and help them grow in their faith.
- Lead students to realization of their self-worth in Christ.
- Integrate biblical principles and the Christian philosophy of life throughout the practices and games.
- All coaches shall be in agreement with the statement of faith of Summit Christian Academy and shall give evidence of good moral character.
- Sign SCA's Lifestyle Statement and Declaration of Moral Integrity.

Eligibility and Participation Requirement

Sportsmanship

Everyone involved with athletic contests should be committed to the demonstration of good sportsmanship and Christian behavior. It is vital that our coaches, fans, and participants remember that Christian character should be represented at the cost of any positive results in a competition. The reflection of the Christian testimony of our school outweighs the outcome of any contest. Players will be expected to shake hands with opposing players after the game.

Athletes as Representatives

The administration and athletic staff of Summit Christian Academy are very concerned with the attitudes displayed by the athletes. We believe that our athletes are representatives of our school to the outlying community, both on and off the playing field. Many times the only contact that people make with our school is through observation of our athletic teams. We feel that a student's behavior in the classroom displays a clear indication of what their behavior will be on the field or court. If a student athlete does not act in a Christ-like manner with his peers and his teachers, we do not expect that he will be a good candidate to represent our school through the athletics program.

Due to the varied talents of athletes on each team, playing time is not guaranteed.

It is the intent of each coach to give each player quality playing-minutes during the season. Students are encouraged to work hard to improve his/her talents so that he/she will be an intricate part of the team. When a disciplinary situation occurs on or off the field, it will be dealt with immediately. After consultation with the athletic director, the player's coach will meet with the athlete and explain the disciplinary decision. Parents will be contacted either by letter or a phone call informing them of the circumstances and the resulting disciplinary measure that was assessed. Each case will be judged individually. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- Pre/post practice clean-up duty
- Push-ups, sit-ups, wall time
- Running
- Verbal apology when applicable
- Written apology when applicable
- Loss of playing time
- Suspension from team
- Dismissal from team
- School disciplinary demerits issued by the Principal or Athletic Director

Eligibility for Participation *per Kentucky Christian Athlete Association (KCAA) by-laws*

- A player must be enrolled, full-time student (at least four (4) instructional hours per day) at SCA in order to play on all sports teams, junior varsity or varsity team levels, inclusive of practices.
- Students in grades 6-12 are eligible to play for all high school sports.
- Students in the upper elementary grades may be eligible to participate at the middle school level in all sports.

Junior Varsity: Any athlete, upon entering his/her freshman year, shall only have 4 semesters of eligibility for JV play. An athlete is ineligible for JV play if he/she turns seventeen (17) before August 1st of the school year.

Varsity: Any athlete upon entering his/her freshman year shall only have 8 semesters of eligibility for varsity play. An athlete is ineligible for varsity play if he/she turns nineteen (19) before August 1st of the school year.

- A student is only eligible for the first eight (8) consecutive semesters after enrolling in the 9th grade, even if he/she does not participate in athletics.
- Students repeating a grade for failure of academics may not participate in a sport during his/her 2nd repeating year.

Transfer Students:

- Member Schools: A transfer student, who has transferred from one member school to another member school during the school year, must sit out six (6) weeks (42 days) and is eligible on the 43rd day.
- Non-Member Schools: A transfer student, who has transferred from a non-member school, is eligible to play for a member school on the 15th day after he/she is enrolled in the member school.
- Post-Season Play: To compete in post-season play, the transfer student is required to compete in at least one-fourth (1/4) of the regular season or at least be dressed and on the bench.
- Foreign Exchange Students: SCA may have no more than two (2) foreign exchange students per roster. A foreign exchange student may play for only two (2) years.

Substance Abuse Policy

Substance abuse is a major violation of the SCA discipline code. Once an athlete is determined to be using alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, the school will take whatever action deemed necessary.

Attendance

Students must be in attendance for the full day of school on any given game day. The exceptions will be as follows:

- Doctor appointment with written excuse/note from the doctor
- Funeral service

All other absences, inclusive of practices, must have prior approval from the coach for it to be excused.

Hazing

Hazing (Harassing with silly, disagreeable, or demeaning tasks) is considered a major violation of the discipline code. If an athlete is determined to be involved in a hazing incident, the school will take whatever action deemed necessary.

Academic Eligibility Requirements

Students are eligible to participate in sports offered at Summit Christian Academy. Sports are age specific and age requirements are noted in the sport offering.

Students must maintain a “C” average or above in every class to be eligible for athletic participation. Teachers will not make allowance for extra credit or exceptions for athletes. Should the minimum grade requirement not be met for any class, the following course of action will be taken for an entire week (Monday to Monday).

For a student with a “D” in a course or courses:

- Week one of ineligibility = allowance to practice and participate in games with strong encouragement to meet the minimum grade requirements.
- Week two of ineligibility = allowance to practice. Students are not eligible for game participation. During the second week of ineligibility, if an athlete raises their grade(s) to eligible level (“C” or higher) they will be able to participate in games immediately.
- Week three of ineligibility = students will not be eligible for practice or game participation until the minimum grade requirements have been met.
- A fourth week with a “D” constitutes dismissal from the team.

If a “C” grade has been earned by the next eligibility evaluation, the student will be allowed to continue to participate in the sport as usual under #3 and #4.

All participation during any period of grade ineligibility is at the discretion of the parent/guardian.

For a student with an “F” in a course or courses:

- Immediate suspension from practices and games until the minimum requirements have been met.
- Three weeks with an “F” constitutes dismissal from the team.

If a student has a D or an F in a class at the end of the grading term. The student will be ineligible to practice or play for 3 weeks. Grades will be evaluated at the end of the three-week period. If a minimum grade of a C has been achieved in all subjects the student will receive eligibility to participate. Eligibility status will not change until the grade of a C has been achieved in all subjects.

Students who have received specialized testing and meet the requirements for special academic assistance will be evaluated on an individual basis at the discretion of the Principal, Teacher(s), Coach and Athletic Director.

Conduct of the Athlete

The role of student athlete at Summit Christian Academy is one of privilege. Students who desire this position must exhibit appropriate, Christ-like behavior and attitude in the classroom as well as on the playing field. In fact, these students should set the standard for behavior in the school. Should these standards not be met, the athlete will be subject to probation or dismissal at the discretion of the Principal, Teacher(s), Coach and Athletic Director.

The student athlete is also subject to standards of behavior as set by the Kentucky Christian Athletic Association (KCAA). If a student is in violation of any of these standards, they will succumb to the consequences as delineated in the bylaws of the KCAA.

Physical Examination

A sports physical form must be on file with the school, in order, for an athlete to be eligible to participate. Physicals are only good for one calendar year from the date indicated by the physician. ***A new physical must be completed for each school year for sports.*** It is recommended for sports physicals to be completed between June 15th and July 15th of each year.

Sports Permission Slip

A permission slip will need to be filled out per student and signed by a parent each new school year.

Athletic Fee

An athletic fee is collected from all participants. Athletes will not be allowed to play until this fee has been paid.

All fees, including incidentals will be billed through student's FACT Account listed in the school office. Fees will be based per team sport throughout the school year.

Uniforms

For sports where a team uniform is not owned by the school, athletes are responsible for securing their own uniform. In sports where uniforms tend to be changed annually, students will purchase and keep their uniforms.

An issued uniform, or any sports equipment, that is issued to a student becomes the responsibility of the athlete and his/her parents. Distributed items must be returned within one-week of the end of the season. Replacement of lost or damaged uniforms and/or equipment is required. The Athletic Director will determine the costs.

Transportation

As a rule, parents are responsible to provide transportation to all games and practices. Summit will try to provide transportation to games through a team bus or carpool. Parents should direct transportation questions to the coach at the beginning of the season.

Students may not transport other students to any sports activity.

Please do not allow your student to find his own way to the games. Special circumstances should be discussed with the Athletic Director. Parents and students should discuss proper safety procedures for their student driving to and from athletic events. A student's cell phone numbers should be given to the coach for emergencies.

Practices

Coaches should cover practice expectations in a pre-season meeting and/or informational letter. Practice attendance in each sport is mandatory to be successful.

Some coaches will hold practice on Saturdays and Wednesday only from 3:15pm to 5pm. Practices will be scheduled from 3:30pm to 8pm when school is in session.

So that our students may attend church, athletic practices on Wednesdays are discouraged; however, scheduling, tournaments, or other exceptions may deem it necessary to schedule a Wednesday practice. In such cases, practice will end at 5:00 p.m. and is not mandatory.

Parents have the responsibility to pick up students in a timely manner. Students should not be on-campus after school unless their practices are immediately after school. If a student is on-campus waiting for practice, he/she must report to aftercare and pay the fee. Please make arrangements for your student accordingly.

Snow Day Policy

If a “snow day” or “emergency day” is called on the day of an athletic contest or practice, the following policy will be in effect:

- A decision about practice or games will be made. This information will be provided through an email or the band-app for communication.
- The scheduled athletic event or practice is considered cancelled unless the Athletic Director or Principle determines it possible to play.

Awards Program

The awards program is held each spring. Coaches will work with the Athletic Director and parents to schedule and create an appropriate end of the season program. The program is a time for athletic recognition, awards and honors.

- **In order to be eligible for awards, inclusive of receiving a letter, an athlete must have been dressed and eligible to play 75% of the games, with the exception of injury or extreme circumstances defined by the administration.**
- **Varsity Letters** will be earned by athletes who participate on a varsity team. Those who qualify will earn a letter in or after the 9th grade. Students who qualify at the varsity level either before 9th grade or after receiving a letter will earn a chevron. In order to be eligible to receive this honor, an athlete must have been dressed and eligible to play in 75% of the games.

Senior Night

Summit will plan a Senior Night for senior athletes during one of the last scheduled home games, to recognize all seniors who participated in a sport during their senior year. Both parents and athletes are expected to participate in this recognition. The Athletic Director will notify senior athletes and their families of the details.



Athletic Handbook Statement of Commitment

Date: _____

We understand that participating in the Summit Christian Academy athletic program is a privilege and understand that the responsibilities as outlined in the Athletic Handbook come with that privilege. We have read, discussed, and understand the procedures and policies as defined in the Athletic Handbook, and here sign that we are committed to abide by such.

Athlete's Signature

Athlete's Printed Name

Parent's Signature

Parent's Printed Name

Coach's Signature

Coach's Printed Name

** Please sign and return this page to the Athletic Director

Permission to Photograph - Media Release

I hereby grant Summit Christian Academy the unrestricted right to use, publish, display, and distribute materials bearing my child's voice, likeness, or any other identifiable representation of my child for the promotion of Summit Christian Academy. These materials may appear in any form, style, color, or medium whatsoever (including without limitation, photographs, video tapes, films, sound recordings, software, drawings, prints, broadcast, internet and electronic media). I understand the identity of my child will be protected. I hereby waive any right I may have to inspect or approve the finished promotional materials bearing my child's picture or identifiable representation.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s) Name (printed) _____

I DO NOT give permission for my child's picture or any other identifiable representation of my child to be used in any SCA Promotional materials.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s) Name (printed) _____

** Please sign and return this page to the Athletic Director