



## **Athletics Handbook**

### **Concordia Mission Statement:**

At Concordia, we view every student as a gift from God, entrusted to us by parents, and are committed in Christian stewardship to educate students holistically in a nurturing environment that includes comprehensive and challenging opportunities in academics, creative arts, spirituality, athletics and co-curricular activities.

### **Concordia Athletic Department Philosophy Statement:**

The Athletic Department at Concordia International School Shanghai provides students the opportunity to grow through the vehicle of sport. We endeavor to transform the lives of our student-athletes through mentorship, and character development.

### **Goals for Concordia Athletics:**

1. Develop students in the areas of goal setting, coping with success and failure, self-confidence, personal accountability, perseverance, persistence, pursuit of excellence, teamwork, humility, good citizenship, and sportsmanship.
2. Increase comradery and school spirit within the community.
3. Showcase the talents of our students in performances and competition.
4. Educate and inspire students to value lifelong fitness and physical activity.

### **Athletic Department Policy Statements**

It is a privilege to represent Concordia in any activity. Participants in co-curricular activities are often the most visible members of our community to the outside world. It is therefore paramount that we have high standards that promote Concordia's ethos and mission. By participating in the program, students and families acknowledge and agree to uphold and support these policy statements.

## Policy Statements

### Academics

The athletic department enthusiastically supports student-athletes being students first. Students must meet the academic eligibility standards expressed in the Concordia High School Handbook in order to participate in athletics. Students are expected to pass all of their classes, make up missed work, and communicate with teachers and coaches if they are struggling academically.

### APAC/JPAC and Homestay Expectations

All team members are expected to participate in the APAC/JPAC events or tournaments if selected by their coach. Failure to do so can result in a loss of eligibility for future events. There may be other opportunities for an additional travel. Mid-season travels are optional; however, if a student cannot participate, they are expected to communicate this prior to the start of the season to the coach and Director of Athletics via an email or when registering. *APAC/JPAC events, and mid-season travels typically cost between ¥2,000 - ¥5,000 per trip. Families are responsible for all costs associated with this travel.*

For each APAC/JPAC event that a student attends, they are required to provide a homestay to two visiting students during one of the APAC/JPAC hosted by Concordia. Additionally, if a student participates in an APAC/JPAC event hosted at Concordia, the family is required to provide a homestay to two visiting students during that specific event. Families can meet this requirement by finding another family at Concordia to provide a home. If a family has difficulty providing a homestay, they can appeal to the Director of Athletics directly.

### Attendance

Concordia supports students participating in multiple activities including the arts, and athletics. However, participating on a team requires a high level of commitment. Students are therefore expected to fully attend all official team activities including practices, competitions, and games. If a student has a conflict, they should communicate this least 48 hours in advance. The Athletic Department reserves the right to require documentation for absences. Failure to provide this documentation will result in a loss of eligibility. Coaches will determine and communicate team policies regarding the consequences of absences. This may include the loss of playing time in games or competitions.

Concordia's Student Handbook lays out the policies for student attendance in school including tardy policies.

### Awards and Lettering

Concordia recognizes and celebrates our participants in several ways.

- 1) Male and Female Sportsman of the Year Award
  - a) Prefer but not limited to a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student

- b) Amount of involvement, usually multi-sport
  - c) Ability and success
  - d) Demonstrated leadership and sportsmanship both on and off of the playing surface
- 2) Team Awards
- a) Presented at the end of season sports banquet. Recipients are chosen by the coaches and are based on merit, not seniority.
  - b) Most Valuable Player
  - c) Most Improved Player
  - d) Coaches Award

### **Communication**

Official communication will always be done via email. Families are responsible for updating their emails on file with the school and to check their emails regularly. Although WeChat may be used to supplement communication, it will not replace email.

In order to promote student safety, Concordia coaches and athletics staff are asked not to engage with students 1-on-1 on WeChat. Using Concordia emails should be fine.

### **Discipline**

Student-athletes serve as role models for their fellow students. Student-athletes should display sportsmanship, use appropriate language and etiquette, and have exemplary behavior at all times. Failure to do so may result in a loss of eligibility.

A student ejected from a contest shall be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled game or match.

### **Dress Code**

On game days, student-athletes are encouraged to wear their team warm-up top. Students must otherwise conform to standard school uniform policies.

Appropriate dress is required for practice and competition. Torsos must be covered at all times and jewelry should not be worn in contact sports.

### **Parent and Legal Guardian Expectations**

We ask that parents support the expectations for student athletes by Concordia.

- 1) Parents and spectators are expected to exhibit Concordia ethos in action as role models during games.
- 2) Any issues or concerns regarding coaching/coaching practice, amount of child's game time, or role on the team, should be addressed directly to the coach, *in person*.
- 3) Any issues or concerns regarding the coaches' conduct (as outlined in this document) should either be addressed with the coach in person or speak with the AD and Principal.

- 4) Parents are not expected to contribute financially to the teams for snacks or for other reasons, however it is not prohibited. Example: If a team mom organizes snacks for the season and asks parents to contribute this is permissible; however, it cannot take the form of coercion.
- 5) When Concordia hosts an APAC event, parents of student-athletes are expected to homestay guests during the event.

### **Safety, Supervision, and Travel**

Concordia's first responsibility as an educational institution is to ensure the safety of our students.

- 1) All student-athletes must complete a medical form for each season and complete an ImPACT test each year. Students are not allowed to practice or compete until these forms are on file with the Athletic Trainer.
- 2) Students are expected to stay with the team during all travel unless they have direct permission from the coach. If families wish to arrange their own transportation to or from an event, they must arrange this at least 24 hours in advance with the coach and Director of Athletics.

### **Tryouts**

Concordia strives to involve as many students as possible in our programs; however, we may not be able to provide an opportunity to all students.