

Gordon Athletics 2021-2022

Damon Ray, interim Athletic Director dray@gordonschool.org 401 434-3833 x182

Student _____ Grade _____

With a few exceptions, athletics are open to fifth through eighth grades. Due to league rules, fifth graders cannot compete in cross country or track and field, but Gordon fifth graders do practice with those teams.

There is a \$240 per season non-refundable fee for fall and winter instructional tennis. Enrollment is limited, and families who are interested should get in touch with the Athletic Director in advance of the season. Enrollment is also limited in the spring competitive tennis program. To be considered for the spring tennis team, students need to have participated in at least one of the instructional seasons. Even then, no one is guaranteed a place on that team.

Release of Liability

I, the undersigned _____ (Parent/Guardian Name), do hereby certify that _____ (Student Name), who is my son/daughter/ward, has my permission to train for and compete in the sports indicated above and that in exchange for his/her being given the privilege to participate in said sport by Gordon, I hereby agree to accept for myself full responsibility for any injury which may befall him/her either in training for such competition or in the competition itself or in traveling to and from such training sessions and competitions.

I do hereby agree for myself and _____ (Student Name) to hold Gordon and its employees and agents, including but not limited to teachers, coaches, trainers, drivers, nurses and doctors, free of all liability for any such accidental injury to my son/daughter/ward, and I further agree to indemnify Gordon and its employees and agents for any liability imposed on them for any such accidental injury to my son/daughter/ward. I have read all materials supplied by the Athletic Director and understand the commitment required to participate in the Gordon Athletics Program.

Gordon Athletics Commitment Statement to be completed by the student and a parent

I have chosen to be a part of a team and I understand that my participation on that team matters.

I understand that in order to be a good teammate, I must be present at all practices and games (with the exception of religious school and other pre-established commitments that have been approved by my coach or Mrs. Fraza). This means that not only will I attend all games and practices, but that I will come ready to listen, learn, and try new things.

I understand that in order to show TRUE Gator Pride and represent my school in the larger community, that everyone on my team must practice skills that go beyond the sport itself.

Together, we must strive to improve, be positive, work together, communicate effectively, win and lose with integrity, and ALWAYS support one another with encouraging words and actions during times of celebration as well as times of difficulty.

I will listen to and be respectful of my coaches.

I will be the best teammate I can be by showing support and being kind.

I will ask for help if I am not feeling comfortable or confident.

I will bring all necessary equipment to practices.

I will treat our practice, game, and locker room spaces with care.

I will try—no matter how difficult the challenge seems.

I will be proud of myself and my teammates when the season is over—this means that I will have done everything possible to make the season be fun, productive, and successful for all.

I have read the above statement. By signing below I am indicating that I understand what is expected of me and pledge a strong commitment to my Gordon sports team.

_____ I have read and will comply with Gordon's Concussion Policy (on the back of this sheet)

_____ I know the Saturday tournament date/State meet for my team (A teams only, cross country, track)

Student-athlete signature _____ Date _____

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____

By signing this form, you indicate that you have read all athletic policies and expectations outlined in the Gordon Handbook and agree to have your child participate fully under these guidelines.

Gordon School

Student Concussion Policy

Background

“A concussion is a brain injury caused when the brain moves rapidly inside the skull, all concussions are serious, they can occur without loss of consciousness, in any sport. Recognition and proper management when they first occur can prevent further injury and even death...Concussion symptoms can take hours or days after injury to appear.” (From the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention)

Response

The follow protocol is to be followed if a student is rendered unconscious after hitting their head:

1. Do not move the injured student
2. An airway, breathing, and circulation assessment is to be performed
3. Perform cervical spine stabilization.
4. If immediate help is needed call 911.
5. The school nurse and the parent are to be called
6. If injury is considered serious, do not wait for the parent to arrive before the injured student is transported to the hospital
 - a. A member of the school staff is to ride with or follow the ambulance to the hospital
 - b. The school representative will take a copy of the student's health form to the hospital. (If time does not allow it may be faxed to the Emergency Room).

The person who has a suspected head injury is to be assessed using the CDC Concussion Signs and Symptoms Checklist. The following protocol is to be used when applying the CDC Concussion Signs and Symptoms Checklist:

1. Injured student should be monitored every 15 minutes for a minimum of 30 minutes.
2. Injured student may be monitored by the nurse, if available, or another member of the faculty or staff.
3. If an injured student reports one or more of the symptoms on the checklist, their parents should be notified AND they should be referred to a health care professional.
4. When the injured student's parents arrive they should be given a copy of the CDC Checklist to take with them to the health care professional.
5. Parents are to be provided a “Head Injury Letter” which notes the signs and symptoms of head injuries and what they should be looking for.

Subsequent to the injury

The following protocol will be followed subsequent to the injury:

1. An injured student, who has been referred to a health care provider, will need to provide a letter from their health care professional clearing them for participation in recess games, physical education or after school sport.
2. The injured student will be taken out for any recurrence of symptoms.
3. Any subsequent incidents will be treated as separate events.
4. Academic accommodations deemed necessary by the health care professional will be taken into consideration.

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All of this information, and all relevant permission forms, can be found at www.gordonschool.org/athletics

A wide variety of interscholastic athletic opportunities are available to Middle School students as well as an instructional tennis program for all Middle School students and an instructional basketball program for fifth graders.

Who can play?

Gordon is proud to guarantee each child a place on a team. Regardless of playing experience or ability level, students are encouraged to participate.

Athletics are open to all fifth through eighth grade students, with these exceptions:

1. Fifth graders may practice, but cannot compete in league games or meets, in cross country, and track and field as dictated by RIPCOA rules.
2. Interscholastic basketball is open to sixth through eighth grade students only. Fifth grade students may participate in an instructional program, described below.
3. Spring tennis is a select team with a limited practice and match schedule. Students must have participated in either the fall or winter instructional program described below to be considered for interscholastic match play.

In most circumstances, it is not possible for a student to participate in both theater and in athletics during the same season.

The seasons

Fall September 1st to November

Cross country, field hockey, soccer, flag football

Instructional tennis begins September 17th

Winter November 29th to late February or early March

Basketball

Fifth grade basketball begins November 29th

Instructional tennis begins January 7th

Spring March 28th to mid or late May

Lacrosse, baseball, track and field

Tennis may begin a few weeks into the season

Commitment and general expectations

Parents and students should understand that team membership is a privilege and that students must be committed to their chosen program. Attendance at all team meetings, practices, and games is expected unless a child is absent from school or has been excused in advance by his or her coach or the Athletic Director. To the greatest extent possible, we encourage student-athletes themselves to communicate directly with coaches and the Athletic Department. We want Gordon students to grow socially, emotionally, and physically through their athletic experience. Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude, strong work ethic, superior sportspersonship, self-control and responsibility.

Students who cannot attend school for health reasons, or are sent home during the day, cannot participate in after school programs, including athletic games or any performances.

Paperwork requirements

Students must submit the permission and liability release form found in this packet in order to participate.

If your child is participating in cross-country or track and field, you must also submit a notarized "Assumption of Risk Form" that is downloadable from the athletics section of Gordon's website, www.gordonschool.org/athletics. Carmen Garcia in Gordon's Business Office is available to notarize.

A team and B team composition

Seventh and eighth grade students generally comprise our A teams and fifth and sixth graders our B teams. Alternative placement within programs may occur when it seems critical to providing a better social, emotional, and physical growth experience for a particular student and team. Due to smaller rosters in basketball, all eighth grade students are placed on the A team before sixth or seventh graders are considered.

If a program is under- or over-enrolled for what we feel we can support and adjustments must be made, interested students and their families will be notified.

Fifth grade instructional basketball

Instructional basketball offers all fifth graders the opportunity to enjoy a limited practice and game schedule throughout the winter season. The program meets two days per week. Depending on gym availability, additional practices may be scheduled. There is no fee for this program.

Fifth graders interested in both instructional basketball and instructional tennis should sign up for the fall tennis session and not the winter session due to potential scheduling conflicts.

Instructional tennis

Both the fall and winter instructional programs are comprised of eight one-hour sessions. Students are bused to Tennis RI, East Bay in East Providence on pre-determined Friday afternoons and arrive back to Gordon at approximately 3:45.

Fifth graders interested in both instructional basketball and instructional tennis should sign up for the fall tennis session and not the winter session due to potential scheduling conflicts.

Enrollment is limited to the first thirty students who sign up. Families will be notified by email if their child has been accepted or placed on a wait list. A non-refundable \$240 per season fee will be billed immediately to all accepted students.

Practice times and game days for interscholastic sports

Fall and spring athletic practices run Monday through Thursday from 3:30-5:00pm unless otherwise indicated on the athletic section of the Gordon website. Basketball practices run Monday through Friday with varying times. Generally, basketball practices run from 3:30-4:30pm or 4:15-5:30pm.

Games are scheduled Monday through Thursday. With the exception of tournament play for A level teams and state meets, there are no weekend commitments.

More information, announcements, and athletics schedules

Up-to-date information, including game and weekly practice schedules, directions, and estimated return times to Gordon's campus from away games is available on the school's website, www.gordonschool.org/athletics. This website is the official resource for all athletics announcements and information.

In the event of cancellation or postponement due to inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances, changes will be announced on the website by 1:00pm.

Looking forward to a successful, fun, and competitive year in athletics. GO GATORS!

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