



Cristo Rey Jesuit

Parent-Student Athletic Handbook

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Coaching Staff and Contact Information

Athletic Department Front Office:

Michael Scrutchin – Athletic Director – mscrutchin@cristoreyjesuit.org

Cross Country:

Vince Bejarano – Head Cross Country Coach

Liz Piet – Assistant Cross Country Coach

Football:

Brandon Murray – Head Coach

Terrance Garr – Assistant Coach

Darrius Craver – Assistant Coach

Volleyball:

Nicole Fournier – Head Girls Volleyball Coach

Sacha Flynn – Assistant Girls/JV Volleyball Coach

Taylor Evans – Assistant Girls/JV Volleyball Coach

Cheer:

Bridget Reagins – Head Varsity Cheer Coach

Basketball:

Reginal Craver – Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach

Kristalyn Jackson – Assistant Girls/JV Basketball Coach

Nnenna Ajawara - Volunteer

Ivan Earls – Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach

Tim Macalino – Assistant Boys/JV Basketball Coach

Michael Henry – Assistant Boys/JV Basketball Coach

Oscar Melgar - Volunteer

Soccer:

Tricia Cooper – Head Girls Varsity Soccer Coach

David Mazzarella – Assistant Girls Soccer Coach

Lupe Mendez – Head Boys Varsity Soccer Coach

TBA – Assistant Boys Varsity Soccer Coach

Baseball:

Fidel Aleman – Head Varsity Baseball Coach

Adam Calabrese – Assistant Coach Varsity Baseball Coach

Gabe Maldonado – Assistant Coach Varsity Baseball Coach

Softball:

Arthur Cruz – Head Varsity Softball Coach

Ramiro Juarez – Assistant Varsity Softball Coach

Cristo Rey Jesuit

Cristo Rey Jesuit Mission

To inspire and prepare students of limited economic resources to succeed in college and lead their communities as compassionate, committed and competent men and women for others for the greater glory of God.

Cristo Rey Jesuit Vision

Compelled by our Jesuit Mission and identity, we are a vibrant community that transforms the world by loving, learning and excelling in all we do.

Welcome from Athletic Director

Welcome to the Cristo Rey Jesuit Athletic Program, home of the Lions. We at Cristo Rey Jesuit find athletics to be an enriching and rewarding outlet for our student athletes. The life lessons learned on the fields or the courts will be values that our student athletes will carry with them in the classroom, workplace and households. Powerful characteristics such as honor, respect, character, responsibility and accountability will all be fostered by the coaches. Our student athletes will leave our program knowing the importance of honoring the game, themselves and their opponents.

Cristo Rey Jesuit is part of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS). We will be playing for both District and State Honors as well as playoff berths. We will have full Varsity schedules and partial JV schedules for some sports.

With Varsity schedules comes Varsity commitment from the entire Cristo Rey Jesuit community. Cristo Rey Jesuit is a college preparatory school and academics are first and foremost in our priorities. We expect you to live up to your commitment and responsibility to the team and remain eligible.

Cristo Rey Jesuit expects character, respect, and responsibility from all of our student athletes. Parents, you are our greatest assets. Your support, encouragement, and commitment is greatly wanted and needed in order for us to have successful seasons.

Lion Pride

The Cristo Rey Jesuit Athletic Department stands by the following declarations:

1. Character

The student athletes of Cristo Rey Jesuit will display a strong sense of character through their speech, actions and decisions, both on and off the field or court.

2. Academic Strength

Academic strength is important to a student's individual growth as well as the success of the Athletic Program. Neither can be successful without academic strength.

3. School Community

Athletics will play an important role in enhancing the student experience.

4. Roles We Play

All players, coaches, managers, parents and fans are an extension of the school community. We will do our best to represent Cristo Rey Jesuit in the best light.

5. Program Integrity

All players, coaches, managers, parents and fans play a role in upholding and maintaining the integrity of each athletic program.

6. Program Equity

All athletic programs are viewed as equally important to the development of the student-athlete as well as the Cristo Rey Jesuit community as a whole.

7. Athletic Participation

We believe that athletic participation in multiple sports makes for a well-rounded individual and athlete. Athletes who participate in multiple sports maximize their contributions to the school and the community. They also increase their chance at leadership possibilities.

8. Winning

Although winning is important, it does not define our program or who we are as individuals. Our pursuits of winning must be balanced our mission, vision and goal of developing the whole-person.

Standards for Lions Athletics

- Honor the game
- Service for team
- Leadership
- Accountability
- Motivation

Lions Code of Conduct

- The athlete recognizes and abides by the coach's rules and procedures as approved by the Athletic Director. Parents receive these rules and guidelines prior to the beginning of each sport season.
- The athlete abides by the authority and direction of the coaches and Athletic Director at all times.
- The athlete shows respect to all those in authority whether they are affiliated with Cristo Rey Jesuit or not. This applies to parents, officials, opposing coaches and opposing administrators.
- The athlete obeys all rules set by the school and complies with the spirit and letter of the rules, year round and including summer break.
- The athlete does not use alcohol, drugs or tobacco or attend events where these are present. If an athlete enters a situation where drugs or alcohol are present, the athlete must leave immediately or disciplinary action will be taken.

Equipment/Uniforms Use/Care

- The athlete cares for the equipment and uniforms issued and complies with all instructions that may accompany it.
- The equipment is the property of the Athletic Program and will be cared for like any other piece of property on the campus.
- Uniforms are only to be worn during athletic contest. Jersey tops only can be worn on game days to school.
- Athletic Hoodies or Package Gear can only be worn during that particular sports season. Hoodies however cannot be worn in the classroom.
- Lost or misused equipment and uniforms will be replaced at the player's expense. At the end of the season the athlete turns in all equipment and uniforms on the date requested. After seven (7) days the equipment or uniforms are not returned, the athlete is billed for the equipment or uniform unless otherwise approved by the Athletic Director. Transcripts will also be held until equipment or uniforms are returned.

Academic Participation and Athletics

- Athletes who miss more than a half day of instruction in the classroom will not be eligible to compete in games for that day.
- Athletes can not miss work or get picked up early from work in order to play in a game.
- Athletes who miss work due to a Tournament **MUST** make up that workday at the next designated make-up period.
- Athletes who are not in compliance with classroom behavior standards or who compromise the integrity of the school or the Athletic Program will be subject to athletic restrictions. This may include restriction from competition or removal from athletics.
- The athlete is aware of and maintains academic eligibility.

Athletic Eligibility

As a college preparatory school, academics is the first and foremost priority at Cristo Rey Jesuit. All students that participate in athletics are expected to respect their commitment and responsibility to the team and remain eligible to play according to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) guidelines. Cristo Rey Jesuit expects character, respect, and responsibility from all student-athletes.

The sole purpose of eligibility rules and contest regulations is to keep competition equitable and to maintain activities in proper perspective.

All student-athletes are eligible at the beginning of the school year. On the third Friday in September, grades for students participating in athletics will be evaluated. All student-athletes must adhere to the “NO PASS, NO PLAY” rule in the TAPPS bylaws and Cristo Rey Jesuit Academic Rules. If a student-athlete is failing one class, that student-athlete will be ineligible to play in games, travel with the team, or sit on the bench for three weeks. In three weeks the student-athlete will be able to gain eligibility as long as he or she is passing all of his or her classes. Eligibility can be gained or lost every three weeks beginning the third Friday of September and ending the third Friday in May. Each reporting date will be posted on the Cristo Rey Jesuit’s school calendar.

Students can APPEAL any grade check. If a student becomes ineligible due to a Friday eligibility check, that student has the opportunity to bring up their grades in time during the three-week ineligibility period. An Appeal will not be filed for a student unless all of their grades are passing. A student will not qualify for an appeal if they simply pass the class they were failing at the Friday Eligibility Check, but happens to be failing other classes.

According to TAPPS standards, students are eligible to represent Cristo Rey Jesuit in extracurricular activities if they:

- have not graduated from high school
- are full-time day students in the school, and have been in regular attendance at the school for 7 or more calendar days before the contest or competition

- initially enrolled in the 9th grade not more than 4 years ago nor in the 10th grade not more than 3 years ago
- were not recruited specifically to play sports
- meet the specific eligibility requirements for academic and athletic competition
- are less than 19 years old on September 1 preceding the contest
- have not violated the athletic amateur rule prior to district certification

Cristo Rey Jesuit is a college preparatory school and academics are first and foremost in our priorities. If you come out for a Varsity team, we expect that you live up to your commitment and responsibility to the team and remain eligible to play. Cristo Rey Jesuit expects character, respect, and responsibility from all our student-athletes.

Parents, you are our greatest assets. Your support, encouragement, and commitment is greatly wanted and needed in order for us to have a successful sports program.

Athletic Administration Framework

The Athletic Director is responsible for the entire Athletic Department. The Athletic Director reports directly to the Principal. If you have any questions or concerns about coaches or the Athletic Program, then contact should be made with the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will rely on the head coaches to create athletic programs that work to build, grow, and maintain competitive balance between Cristo Rey Jesuit and opponents. Ultimately, the Athletic Director will have authority regarding any decision made by members of the Athletic Department and coaching staff.

Governing Body

Cristo Rey Jesuit is a member of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS). Cristo Rey Jesuit adheres to all policies, rules, regulations, and by-laws established by TAPPS. All TAPPS policies can be found at TAPPS.biz. Cristo Rey Jesuit will be in TAPPS 5A District 7 for most of the sports we offer. We will be competing for district honors against Westbury Christian, Emery/Wiener, Cypress Christian, Frassati Catholic, Fort Bend Christian Academy, Second Baptist School and Lutheran South Academy

Lions Varsity Athletics

As a member of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Cristo Rey Jesuit competes against many other private and some public schools around the state for team varsity sports. For this reason, high school varsity competition is meant for our most qualified, dedicated and top performing players. Coaches at the varsity level are expected to utilize a winning strategy when making program decisions. Coaches also understand that while we are looking for the most qualified players for the varsity programs, we are also very aware of wanting to concentrate on developing the whole person and not just a tremendous athlete.

When participation is sufficient in a competitive sport, coaches will employ the use of a junior varsity (JV) team. The purpose of a JV team is to allow for those less experienced and skilled players an opportunity to build fundamentals and ability, as well as confidence in order to take over leadership positions on the varsity level. The junior varsity (JV) teams do not compete in TAPPS playoffs or State competitions. JV teams will also have fewer games than the varsity

programs.

Tryouts and Cutting

We approach all of our programs at Cristo Rey Jesuit from the perspective of wanting to provide the best quality of instruction and experience. There will be try-outs and cuts for every sports program. We fill that with a limited number of players, the coaching staff has the opportunity and time to give to those students in order to better develop their abilities and characteristics. Tryouts will be designed by coaches to measure the experience, ability, potential and attitude of the athletes participating. Tryouts will last anywhere from three days to a week. A final determination about the team will be made by the coaching staff by the following week of tryouts. Those students that earned a spot on the team will be required to fulfill their obligation toward completing the season. Any student that does not earn a spot on the varsity team will be offered a spot on the JV team, if that sport offers one, or an opportunity to try the next year.

Commitment of Athletics

If a student earns a spot on the varsity or junior varsity team and chooses to participate in athletics, then that student is expected to fulfill their commitment to the best of their abilities regarding eligibility and participation of practices. Athletes are responsible for attending all practices and games. Keep in mind that any absence, excused or otherwise will result in that athlete losing preparation time. It is up to the discretion of the coach and their rules on whether or not missed practices will lead to less playing time or dismissal from the team.

If a player is ineligible due to grades, they are still expected to participate in practices unless permission from the Head Coach is granted.

If a sports program has to forfeit a district game because of low numbers due to ineligible players, then that sport will be suspended from the Athletic Program for one school year.

NO QUIT Policy

Cristo Rey Jesuit follows a no quit policy. Quitting a sport will adversely affect the team and the school that season and possibly in the future. Schedules, equipment, uniforms and team personnel choices are made before the season and based on participation levels. Quitting dramatically hurts the ability of the program to plan for the future. Once an athlete earns a spot on a team, he/she must make the commitment to finish the season with the program. Penalty for not completing a season due to quitting or not returning to practices because of ineligibility is suspension from all sports for one calendar year from the start of the season.

- The only exception to this rule is when the Head Coach, Athletic Director and Parent all agree that the student's participation would not be beneficial to the player and the team.

Disciplinary Policy

The athletes at Cristo Rey Jesuit are direct and most times amplified representatives of our school on and off the playing field or court. Most times, student-athletes are the only

representation of the school that people not affiliated with the school get to see. We believe that a student's behavior in the classroom, on the field or court and in the community is a clear indication of their character and discipline. If a student-athlete cannot conduct his or herself with character, respect and discipline, then we cannot expect that the student-athlete will be a good representation of our school in the area of athletics.

Disciplinary infractions will be handled confidentially and on a case-by-case basis. Some will be handled internally through the sports program, while others will be brought in front of the school's Disciplinary Council. Any infraction of the team or school rules may result in the following actions as deemed appropriate by the Head Coach, Athletic Director and/or Administrators at Cristo Rey Jesuit:

- Suspension from competitions and events
- Dismissal from the team
- Calisthenics or other physical activity
- Community service on campus
- Any other appropriate actions chosen by the coaching/administrative staff

Dismissal from Team

Student-athletes removed from the team for behavioral issues, gross violations of team rules, academic ineligibility or insubordination will be subject to future restrictions in the athletic program. In these instances, student-athletes and Parents must meet with the Head Coach and Athletic Director to determine the suspension from future sports or seasons. In most cases, the student-athlete will be suspended from all sports for one calendar year from the start of the season.

Removal from Contests/Ejections

Any time a student-athlete is ejected from a contest, that student-athlete/family is responsible for a nominal fee of \$50 per ejection. The student-athlete is automatically suspended from the next scheduled game and will continue to sit until the nominal fee is paid. If a student-athlete receives three ejections in a season, they will be automatically removed from the team. In this instance the student-athlete and Parents must meet with the Head Coach and Athletic Director to determine the suspension from future sports or seasons. In most cases, the student-athlete will be suspended from all sports for one calendar year from the start of the season.

Ejections from any activity may result in further sanctioning by the school, athletic department or TAPPS depending on the nature of the offense.

Recruiting Policy

Students and families must follow the admissions procedures established by Cristo Rey Jesuit. No student, regardless of intended athletic participation, will be given preferential treatment for admission status. All TAPPS rules regarding transfer students must be followed and paperwork turned in. Please refer to the TAPPS By-Laws regarding rules for transfer students. This includes solicitation, enticement and inducements. Cristo Rey Jesuit will not offer or support and form of enticements or inducements, including athletic scholarships, by the athletic department or anyone associated with Cristo Rey Jesuit.

Multi-sport Participation

Cristo Rey Jesuit students are strongly encouraged to participate in Athletics and also try multiple sports. We believe that a student-athlete that plays more than one sport, will be a more well-round individual and will also enhance their “core” sport with learned skills from other athletic activities. All student-athletes wishing to participate in multiple sports will be allowed to do so without penalty. Coaches will, under no circumstance, discourage students from participating in one sport from another. This includes verbal warnings and/or using playing time as leverage.

Coaches should work to ensure that students do not discourage one another from playing other sports. We expect all programs to be supportive of other programs on campus.

When conflicts arise with participation in multiple sports, coaches will work together to manage the time commitments of athletes so as to honor the commitment to multi-sport student-athletes. There will be times where practices from one season merge into the end of another season.

As a general rule, all sports in district play or playoff competition will have priority over other sports and practices.

However, student-athletes will not be allowed to compete in multiple sports happening during the same season.

Any exceptions to any of the above rules must be approved by the Athletic Director and agreed upon by the two Head Coaches of the competing sports.

Athletic Website/Media Coverage/Sports Publications

The athletic portion of our website is a valuable tool that is used to promote our programs, athletes and coaches. Any student-athlete may be featured on our website, in a sports program/media guide, or in other forms. If you do not wish for your child’s name or likeness to be used, please contact the Athletic Director in writing as soon as possible.

Parent Concerns

The Head Coaches along with the Athletic Director will address all parent concerns. Assistant coaches or Deans should always refer Parent concerns to the Head Coach first. When applicable, the Head Coach should work to resolve parent issues individually, while making the Athletic Director aware of the situation. When warranted, the Athletic Director should be consulted for proper communication and decision-making. Whenever there is a conflict, the Athletic Director and the Head Coach will conference with the parent on the nature of the complaint and work to rectify any situation that arises.

After each season a parent survey is taken to give parents an opportunity to voice their concerns. These anonymous survey answers are used by the Athletic Department to determine areas needing improvement.

Valuables

Under no circumstance should students-athletes ever come to practice with a large amount of cash or expensive valuables. Each student-athlete is ultimately responsible for his/her valuables. Because locker rooms are used by multiple sports and programs (and even sometimes by other schools), it is impossible for the athletic department to ensure the protection or punishment for valuables being taken. We ask that all student-athletes leave expensive items at home. When this is not possible, students should notify the coaching staff so that the item can be stored in a secure location

Holidays/Dead Days/Mid-terms and Finals

Holidays/non-school days may be used for practices at the discretion of the coach and Athletic Director unless prohibited by TAPPS. There are four weeks on the calendar where athletic participation is not allowed and are marked as “Dead Weeks”.

Practice/Games

Practice is the primary mode of preparation and participation for student-athletes in a sport. It is also the primary indicator for a student-athlete’s growth, potential, attitude, leadership skills and sport acumen. **PRACTICE IS MANDATORY.** The student-athlete must manage his/her schedule in such a way that he/she can fulfill all responsibilities to schoolwork, clubs, organizations and athletics. Academics are the first priority at Cristo Rey Jesuit. However, it is not acceptable to miss team functions for the sake of academic work. Part of being a student-athlete is finding a balance between academics, athletics, work and your personal life. Cristo Rey Jesuit athletes are expected to sacrifice more personal time for academics study due to our extensive course work and Corporate Work Study Program. Students-athletes may struggle at times and parents are encouraged to support their children through difficult periods.

We understand that teachers at Cristo Rey Jesuit offer office hours during various times during the week. When supported is needed, by all means attend those office hours. However, permission must be given by the Head Coach before heading to office hours. Do not skip practice for office hours without notifying the Head Coach first.

- Hydration is extremely important in both indoor and outdoor sports. It is very important that all student-athletes meet the demands of games and practices by hydrating effectively. This means drinking water during the day, at home, at practice and the games. Managers for the team will provide 5 gallon water containers for practice. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to provide their own water bottle for practice.
- Parent support and involvement is crucial to the growth and success of our athletic programs. The attention of the student-athlete at practices and during games is paramount. Please do not coach your children from the sidelines during practice or the games. We ask that parents respect the instruction and direction of the coaching staff. At times a Head Coach may ask to have a closed practice session. Please respect the coaching staff in such cases.

- Student-athletes should be picked-up promptly after practices and games. This allows the student-athlete to maximize study and family time. It also allows our coaches the opportunity balance school work, coaching and family time.
- Practices and games will be allowed Monday – Saturday. If a practice or a game is cancelled, notification will be given by the Head Coach. A game cancellations will also be posted on the Athletic Calendar on the school’s website by the Athletic Director.

Inclement Weather/Emergency Situations

The Athletic Director at Cristo Rey Jesuit will carefully monitor the weather status on competition days. Decisions regarding the playing surface or the safety of the players, fans and coaches will be made by the Athletic Director. If a game must be cancelled, rescheduled or postponed, Cristo Rey Jesuit will do everything it can to communicate that to parents. The receptionist at the front desk will be informed of the cancellation. A posting and correction to the Athletic Calendar will be made by the Athletic Director. An email will also be sent out by the Head Coach. All parents should make sure that their email addresses are given to the Head Coach at the Parent’s Meeting for that particular sport.

Travel to Away Contests

Transportation is an important part of activities within the athletic department. Cristo Rey Jesuit will provide transportation to and from athletic contest. Transportation will be provided in the form on bus, shuttle, school shuttle, school van, rented van or a coach’s personal vehicle. All traffic laws will be followed when traveling in a Cristo Rey Jesuit Athletic capacity.

Students must act in accordance with all school rules during transportation. No standing, yelling, throwing objects out the window, signaling to other vehicles and pedestrians or damaging the vehicle are allowed. Meals may be eaten in the school or rented vehicles, but all TEAMS will be responsible for cleaning up after use. Failure to follow the rules will result in punishment of the team.

All student-athletes must ride as a team to athletic event. Student-athletes are **NOT** allowed to drive their own vehicles to or from an away game, weekend game, tournaments or out of city contest. Student-athletes cannot leave work early or be picked up from work early in order to attend an away game. Parents are more than welcome to pick up their child from away games, weekend games, tournaments and out of city contest.

No hotels will be booked for fans or parents by the Cristo Rey Jesuit Athletic Department. The Athletic Department will provide information on team plans once everything has been finalized for playoff events.

During overnight trips, student-athletes represent Cristo Rey Jesuit at all times. They should behave in a way that brings honor and integrity to their school, program, team and themselves. Any action that takes away from that is considered a punishable offense.

“If you think it could be wrong, then it probably is wrong.”

Athletic Participation Fee

Cristo Rey Jesuit does **NOT** require an Athletic Participation Fee. For most athletic programs, the athletic fee is the primary source of the athletic budget and is used to take care of any expenses incurred during the school year.

Cristo Rey Jesuit does offer Sports Packages. The cost of this Sports Package will vary depending on the team and what type of apparel the student-athletes elect. None of the Sports Packages will exceed \$100. Everything in the Sports Package that the student-athlete elects to get is theirs to own.

Sports Packages have been implemented to the Athletic Program to bring a sense of unity, continuity and team comradery, while at the same time displaying school spirit. Sports Packages are not mandatory.

Athletic Physicals

All student-athletes must have a physical on file with the Athletic Director. The physical must be completed by an appropriate licensed medical professional prior to participation in any athletic practice or event.

Injuries

When a student-athlete is injured in practice or a game, it is recommended that he/she see a licensed physician to ascertain the exact nature of the injury and to seek appropriate care and rehabilitation. We would rather that the student-athlete miss some time rather than cause extended damage to their body.

Once a student sees a licensed practitioner, it is the policy of Cristo Rey Jesuit that the injured athlete **NOT** be allowed on the practice field/court without a signed release from a doctor clearing them to participate. If a player is suspected to have had a concussion, it is **mandatory** that the player not participate in games or practices until he/she has been cleared by a licensed physician to participate. Parents, students or coaches may waive this requirement.

Varsity Letter Policy

Each student-athlete must meet specific criteria to earn a varsity letter:

- Student-athletes must compete in at 50% of the season at the varsity level
- Student-athletes must attend and participate in practices
- The coaching staff and Athletic Director must approve student-athletes before receiving a varsity letter

Spectator Code of Conduct

- Fans are welcome to be positive, passionate, and loud as long as it is in the realm of being respectful and showing school spirit.
- Spectators are to treat our coaches, administrators, players, opposing coaches, opposing teams, referees and officials in a respectful manner.
- The actions of the fans represent our school community. Fans should remember that they not only represent Cristo Rey Jesuit, but also the student-athlete that they came to support
- When applicable, spectators will be asked to leave the premises and not return to Cristo Rey Jesuit athletic events. Any member of the Cristo Rey Jesuit administration, the Athletic Director or game administrators reserve the right to make this decision at any time.

Parents

Parents, you are our greatest assets. Your support, encouragement, and commitment is greatly wanted and needed in order for us to have a successful program. Cristo Rey Jesuit has a Parent Association/Booster Club affiliated with the school. Parents with student-athletes are encouraged to join and participate in that organization. Please come to our contest and help us fill the stands with positive support and school spirit.