

# HUDDLE GUIDELINES

## **FCA Huddle Constitution**

### **Article I - Name**

The name of the organization shall be the (name of the school) Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

### **Article II - Mission**

The mission of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes is “To lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church.”

FCA is a Christian community that is led by those who serve FCA’s mission as its representatives, including all of FCA’s directors, officers, employees and volunteer leaders, each of whom is an integral part of the community (and are described in this Manual as “FCA representatives”). Both of FCA’s mission and the association of FCA’s representatives are an exercise and an expression of FCA’s Christian beliefs.

### **Article III - Qualifications of Members**

As the purpose states, FCA is targeted at reaching athletes and coaches. In order to best reach this group through the Huddle, participants of Huddles are to be current or former members of recognized school athletic teams and those who carry an interest in athletics.

FCA should not become an exclusive “club,” with restricted membership; however, a key principle in FCA’s strategy for reaching “athletes and coaches” is for the commonality of athletics with those in the group to remain obvious.

### **Article IV - Officers and Elections**

#### **■ Section I: Officers to be Elected**

The (name of school) Fellowship of Christian Athletes shall have officers as follows:

1. Captain
2. Co-Captain
3. Recruiter
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer

#### **■ Section II: Qualifications of Officers**

To express and exercise FCA’s Christian beliefs, every FCA student leader must contribute to FCA’s Christian character and mission (see page 40), perform all of his or her duties as a service to God, and model FCA’s Christian beliefs for the larger community.



Accordingly, an officer must be a participant or a student/adult leader of the (name of school) Fellowship of Christian Athletes and an FCA student leader who has affirmed his or her agreement with FCA's Statement of Faith and mission (and has been certified as such by the National FCA.) meet any qualifications set by the school for holding office in an organization that is consistent with FCA's mission and beliefs.

## ■ Section III: Duties of Officers

- A. Captain will preside over all meetings, work with other Huddle officers and Huddle Coaches in planning programs, give direction in setting group goals and demonstrate Christian leadership qualities.
- B. Co-Captain will assist the Captain in any way, inform the Huddle of meeting time and place, assist in program planning and take care of any physical needs of the meeting.
- C. Recruiter will promote FCA activities among coaches and athletes.
- D. Secretary will provide administrative support of Huddle activities.
- E. Treasurer will be responsible for processing any funds acquired by the Huddle.

## ■ Section IV: Elections

Election of officers will be held once a year, preferably during March or April. This will allow newly elected officers to be trained by the existing officers and have opportunity to attend FCA Leadership Camp in the summer. Potential officer candidates will be screened by existing officers and Huddle Coach to ensure their commitments to FCA's beliefs and mission. A majority vote will be necessary for an officer to be elected. In case of no majority, a runoff will be held immediately.

## Article V - Meetings

Meetings will be held weekly or twice a month and can be conducted in an atmosphere where fellowship, growth and outreach can be accomplished.

## Article VI - Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any Huddle officer. Amendments shall become effective if approved by the executive leadership of the organization. All policies of the said group must be consistent with the policies of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Support Center, 8701 Leeds Road, Kansas City, MO 64129, (800) 289-0909 or (816) 921-0909.

# HUDDLE GUIDELINES

## **The Equal Access Act**

(Title VIII of Public Law 98-377)

### **Short Title**

Sec. 801. This title may be cited as “The Equal Access Act.”

### **Denial of Equal Access Prohibited**

Sec. 802.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any public secondary school which receives Federal financial assistance and which has a limited open forum to deny equal access or a fair opportunity to, or discriminate against, any students who wish to conduct a meeting within that limited open forum on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings.
- (b) A public secondary school has a limited open forum whenever such school grants an offering to or opportunity for one or more non-curriculum related student groups to meet on school premises during non-instructional time.
- (c) Schools shall be deemed to offer a fair opportunity to students who wish to conduct a meeting within its limited open forum if such school uniformly provides that–
  - (1) the meeting is voluntary and student-initiated;
  - (2) there is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;
  - (3) employees or agents of the school or government are present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity;
  - (4) the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
  - (5) nonschool persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.
- (d) Nothing in this title shall be construed to authorize the United States or any State or political subdivision thereof –
  - (1) to influence the form or content of any prayer or other religious activity;
  - (2) to require any person to participate in prayer or other religious activity;
  - (3) to expend public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing the space for student-initiated meetings;



- (4) to compel any school agent or employee to attend a school meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the agent or employee;
  - (5) to sanction meetings that are otherwise unlawful;
  - (6) to limit the rights of groups of students which are not of a specified numerical size; or
  - (7) to abridge the constitutional rights of any person.
- (e) Notwithstanding the availability of any other remedy under the Constitution or the laws of the United States, nothing in this title shall be construed to authorize the United States to deny or withhold Federal financial assistance to any school.
- (f) Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the authority of the school, its agents or employees, to maintain order and discipline on school premises, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

## Definitions

Sec. 803. As used in this title -

- (1) The term “secondary school” means a public school which provides secondary education as determined by State law.
- (2) The term “sponsorship” includes the act of promoting, leading, or participating in a meeting. The assignment of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee to a meeting for custodial purposes does not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.
- (3) The term “meeting” includes those activities of student groups which are permitted under a school’s limited open forum and are not directly related to the school curriculum.
- (4) The term “noninstructional time” means time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.