

Wildwood Crest School District



Athletic Handbook

School Year:
2024/2025

Board Approved: _____

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Philosophy & Objectives of Crest Memorial Athletics

It is the intent of the Wildwood Crest School District athletic programs to provide its students a comprehensive program of interscholastic athletics for girls and boys. The program shall be managed and teams coached in a manner to achieve the following objectives:

- Promote individual and team desire for excellence while emphasizing that interscholastic sports are kept in perspective. The first priority for all students is intellectual and emotional growth.
- Encourage enjoyment of competition, a desire to win, and a healthy perspective toward winning and losing.
- Develop the self-confidence and self-respect of each team member.
- Develop the specialized talents, skills, and physical fitness of each student.
- Develop attitudes and skills, which foster teamwork, cooperation, loyalty and spirit.
- Develop the highest degree of sportsmanship, sense of fair play, and respect for coaches, game officials, and especially fellow students, both teammates and opponents.

Our goals are to produce young men and women who have the capacity to be successful citizens in our highly competitive society. Crest Memorial School is committed to achieving this goal. We also want students to leave us and be able to say that they were proud to have been part of Crest Memorial Athletics. The lessons learned are an important part of the overall development of the youth we serve.

Roster Eligibility

Tryouts will be held for Crest Memorial School sports teams that have a number of prospective students signing up that is greater than the roster number located in the **Athletic Teams Handbook** (WCBOE approved yearly in August) for each sport. While this selection process can be difficult for all parties involved, it is necessary for some sports programs.

Tryouts- Procedures & Practices

Tentative tryout dates will be set in August and posted on the school website and calendar. There will be an informational opening meeting with each sport prior to tryouts. At this meeting all prospective students will receive a letter that includes information regarding tryout procedures, dates, practices, and equipment needed for each sport. These letters will try to be consistent across each sport, but may differ due to the need of each individual sport. There will be a section on the letter for the student and parent(s) to sign and return. This section must be signed and returned before the student can participate.

If student cuts are needed, each coach will individually approach the student the day after the last tryout. This will be an in person meeting either during the school day or after school, but will happen before the first practice of the season occurs. This will not happen at the end of the last tryout, nor will a list of any team be shared with the students prior to said meeting. The number of tryout days will vary at the discretion of the coaches for that sport.

If a prospective athlete is going to miss the tryout period, he or she must let the coach know well before the beginning of tryouts, and his or her tryout period will take place as soon as that athlete is eligible for practice. A “makeup” tryout should only be used for emergency purposes and must be scheduled with the coach directly.

Basic Rules & Regulations for Athletic Participation

Participation in athletics and activities in the Crest Memorial School is a privilege, which carries with it certain responsibilities. A student is a representative of the school and the entire community. There are certain basic standards expected of the participants in athletics at Crest Memorial.

1. All students who represent Crest Memorial School on a team are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit upon Crest Memorial School.

2. All students must remember they are students of the school first and participants second.

3. Being a member of a team carries a higher level of accountability of being a good citizen in the face of peer pressure to become involved in some action, which might violate school rules. Our students are expected to set examples of good school citizenship and cooperation, which will reflect upon them as individuals and upon all our students in general.

4. Students must be counted present prior to 11:30 AM. and remain present in school in order to be eligible to participate in practice or games. The only exceptions are:
 1. Previous arrangement with school administration
 2. Approved high school visitation or school sponsored field trip.
 3. Approved legal and/or religious dates.
 4. Medical Condition (note required)

Repeated lateness on contest dates may result in denial or participation privileges.

Grounds for Suspension and/or Removal From Team

1. Violation of coach-established team rules.
 - First offense –consequences determined by the coach.
 - Second offense – Phone call home to the parents/guardians by the coach to make them aware that the next step is removal from the team. Email to principal detailing events is required as well. Consequences determined by the coach. (suspension from athletic contest(s) may be issued)
 - Third offense – removal from the team.

2. Disrespect toward a teacher/coach.
 - First offense –consequences determined by the coach.
 - Second offense – Phone call home to the parents/guardians by the coach to make them aware that the next step is removal from the team. Email to principal detailing events is required as well. Consequences determined by the coach. (suspension from athletic contest(s) may be issued)
 - Third offense – removal from the team
3. Unexcused Lateness To Practice.
 - 1-3 latenesses – consequences determined by the coach. (Suspension)

The following acts of poor decision making may call for suspension and/or removal from the team.

1. Any athlete while school or school related functions and/or athletics is/are in session is in violation of the schools substance abuse policy.
2. Any attitude or behavior which is considered by the disciplining administration to be detrimental to the ethical principles of the group or reflects poorly on the Wildwood Crest School District.
3. Any athlete that uses social media in an unsportsmanlike manner may call for suspension and/or removal from the team. This may be toward another player, coach or opposing school.

Day(s) in which a student is on suspension, he/she **will not** be permitted to participate in any activity or event that day or night during the duration of the suspension. **NOTE: If a student's suspension ends on a Friday, they are eligible to participate Saturday. If the suspension carries over to Monday, the student is ineligible to participate Saturday.**

Any other discipline situation, which the Athletic Director feels, should warrant disciplinary action may be suspended and/or removed from their team. This will be in conjunction with the Principal.

* **NOTE:** Suspensions may be anywhere from 1 to 5 events. Also, coaches reserve the right to add to these rules. _____

Parent/ Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communications you should expect from your child's coach:

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for his/her players on the team.
3. Location and times of all practices and games.
4. Team requirements: i.e. special equipment, off-season conditioning.
5. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

Communications coaches expect from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coach's expectations.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things such as these under the next heading must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategies
3. Play calling
4. Other students

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach – the procedure you should follow is:

1. Set up an appointment through email or call school.
 - a. The Crest Memorial School telephone number is 609-522-1522.
 - b. Staff directory (email addresses) is located on the school website:
www.crestmem.edu
2. If the coach is not in the building or cannot be reached, call or email the Athletic Director. He/she will set up the meeting for you.

Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote resolutions. We ask that all parents wait 24 hours before talking with a coach.

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Volunteers

A volunteer athletic coach is a person who is not paid by the Board of Education, assisting under the direct supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed district employee, and provides assistance for the school activity.

Please refer to # Policy 9181- Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/ Assistants. Policies can be found on the Crest Memorial website: www.crestmem.edu

Coach/ Volunteer Coach- Code of Conduct

All coaches will be expected to adhere to the following expectations:

1. Treat players, coaches, officials, and opponents, with **respect**
2. **Inspire** in the athletes a love for the game, and a desire to compete fairly

3. **Discipline** those on the team who display unsportsmanlike behavior
4. **Respect** the judgment and interpretation of the rules by the officials
5. **Know** he/she is a teacher, and understand the athletic area is a classroom.
6. Always **remember** that it is a ***privilege*** to represent the school and community.
7. Show **commitment to safety** to ensure the physical and emotional safety of all athletes by adhering to best practices in training, preparation, and communication.
8. **Promote Inclusivity** by encouraging an inclusive environment where all athletes feel valued and supported, regardless of skill level, background, or personal circumstances.
9. **Encourage sportsmanship** by actively promoting sportsmanship both on and off the field, setting clear expectations for behavior during practice, competition, and outside of the team environment.

Failure to comply with the above expectations can result in immediate dismissal or not being rehired as a coach with the Wildwood Crest School District.

Fall Sports

VARSIY SOCCER Co-Ed

- Squad Size: 25
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days a week.
- Grade Levels: Sixth, Seventh, and Eight Grades

CROSS COUNTRY Co-Ed

- Squad Size: (30)*
 - a. *Coaches discretion
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days a week.
- Grade Levels: Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades

Winter Sports

JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADING

- Squad Size: 15
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 3-5th Grade

VARSITY CHEERLEADING

- Squad Size: 15
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 6-8th Grade

VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Squad Size: Twelve (12)
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 7th and 8th Grade

VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

- Squad Size: Twelve (12)
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 7th-8th Grade

Winter Sports

JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Squad Size: Twelve (12)
- Practice time per week: At least four (4) days
- Grade levels: 5th and 6th Grade

JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

- Squad Size: Twelve (12)
- Practice time per week: At least four (4) days
- Grade levels: 5th and 6th Grade

Spring Sports

VARSITY BOYS BASEBALL

- Squad Size: fifteen (15)
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade

VARSITY GIRLS SOFTBALL

- Squad Size: fifteen (15)
- Practice time per week: Approximately four (4) days
- Grade levels: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades