

St. Brendan High School Athletics Parent Guide

I. TEAM SELECTION:

Athletics are extracurricular activities provided by the school and participation is a privilege. St. Brendan High School provides students who meet academic, attendance and disciplinary requirements the opportunity to try out for a variety of athletic teams. In most of our programs there is a selection process, and not all students that try out for a sport will be selected to be on the team. Furthermore, students must try out each year, being a member of a team one year does not guarantee membership on the team the following year. Upperclassmen who have played as underclassmen are not guaranteed a spot on the team the following year.

A) CRITERIA: The criteria for the selection process is set by the staff with the approval of the Director of Athletics. It is the prerogative of the coaching staff to render the final decision for team selection based on their experience and best professional judgment according to set criteria. All student/athletes will be evaluated by the coaching staff for selection on a team at the beginning of each season. Prior to the selection process, all candidates for a team are provided with ample scrimmage time, briefed on the length of the selection process, and the commitment level required for team members.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES AS A STUDENT/ATHLETE: Each student/athlete is expected to abide by the Athletic Department's Code of Conduct both on and off the field. This code is comprised of the following:

A) ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Academic eligibility standards are predetermined by the school. See the parent handbook for further details. It's the student/athlete's responsibility to maintain the minimum GPA while striving to achieve greater academic success. Since many of our student/athletes set their goals to continue athletic participation in college, each is encouraged to familiarize themselves with the NCAA standards by going to the NCAA Clearing House website at ncaaclearinghouse.net. The STBHS school number for the Clearing House is 101097. The NCAA bases eligibility on sixteen core courses taken over the course of an individual's high school career.

B) SPORTSMANSHIP: Sportsmanship as defined by the FHSAA is as follows: Students, coaches, administrator, spectators and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school, as well as contest officials, shall practice and promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethics at all times directly or indirectly in any manner to interscholastic relationships or events, whether prior to, during, or following such relationship or event.

C) RESPECT: All St. Brendan High School student-athletes must set a good example, regardless of the outcome of the game, by always respecting the officials, coaches, opponents and fans. The head coach has the authority to discipline a student-athlete up to and including the suspension and/or dismissal from a team. In these cases the Director of Athletics must be informed and consulted before final action is taken. Words or actions by players, parents, and/or

legal guardians deemed detrimental to the team or the well-being of an athlete, member of the coaching staff, or member team as determined by the administration of the school, may be just cause for the athlete's dismissal from the team.

D) HEALTH: It is the responsibility of each student-athlete, under the guidance of a coach, to prepare physically as well as mentally, prior to the sports season. In most cases this will entail participation in school sponsored off-season strength and conditioning programs. If an injury occurs, the school's athletic trainer must be notified. If at any time the athlete is seen by a physician, a letter of release signed by the physician must be given to the athletic trainer prior to any further involvement on the school's athletic team.

E) DEDICATION/COMMITMENT: Once you are selected on a team, regardless of the level, you are committed to that team for the duration of its season. It is against school policy to leave one team prior to the conclusion of its season to play on another team. You are required to be on time, prepared, attend each practice and game, and maintain a positive attitude towards your coaches and teammates throughout the season. If an athlete is not present at practices, they can not expect to play in games.

III. THE ROLE OF THE PARENT: The school and athletic department expects a certain level of conduct for our parents. Listed below are a number of areas this entails:

A) BE ENTHUSIASTIC AND ENCOURAGING: Support your son/daughter to strive for their best, regardless of the level of sport. Work with your son/daughter as well as their teachers/coaches to help set realistic academic and performance goals. Be aware at times, the student-athlete may tend to put too much pressure on themselves in order to achieve unrealistic goals.

B) LET THE COACHES COACH: Regardless of the coaching experience a parent/guardian may have, avoid criticizing the coaches, school officials, and other teammates in the presence of your son/daughter. Behavior such as this is detrimental to the building of team morale. Parents/guardians need to trust the coach and his/her philosophy to help build team morale. The development of a positive coach-athlete relationship promotes personal and team growth and is essential to team spirit and success. While on the sidelines, parents expected to refrain from coaching their son/daughter since any instructions may confuse or contradict the coach's sideline instructions. The offering of encouragement and support by the parent can have more of a positive impact on the student athlete. The Athletic department will not get involved in strategies or management of games, that is up to the coach.

C) APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH:

- How your child can improve and grow
- Concerns about your son's/daughter behavior
- How you can help

As professionals, our coaches make decisions based on what they believe is best for the team. As listed above, there are some issues a parent can discuss with a coach. However, there are

issues which must be left to the judgment and discretion of the coach.

D) ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

- Playing time
- Coaching strategy
- Play calling
- Other student/athletes
- Other coaches, administrators, or athletic teams

E) PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW IF YOU HAVE TO DISCUSS A CONCERN WITH A

COACH: There are times when it may be necessary to require a conference to discuss concerns with a coach and it will always be encouraged to do so. It's helpful for each party to have a clearer understanding of the other's position. It's also important to note two very important facts: One, that confidentiality is something that may not be promised. Two, you will be heard but you may not get what you want. If and when a conference with a coach is requested the following procedures are in place: Email the head coach to set up an appointment.

If for some reason the head coach cannot be reached please call the Director of Athletics, Mr. Kevin Esteban at (305) 223-5181 ext. 562 or kesteban@stbhs.org

Please do not attempt to circumvent the chain of command by contacting either the school's principal or Director of Athletics without speaking to the head coach first. Once the conference is set please stick to the points of concern in many cases another coach involved with the sport will also be present.

F) IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING SPORTS: In the case where a family is delinquent in paying tuition, and other financial obligations, the administration of the school may refuse to allow the student to participate in athletic or school activities. St. Brendan High School is not responsible for student participation in sports/leagues/clubs not listed in the Parent/Student Handbook. Parents hereby acknowledge student/athletes who participate in any such program do so at their own risk. Parents further acknowledge that the school does not control or sanction any such program and that it shall not be held liable for any injuries or damages sustained by students or others arising from participation in such program or activities. St. Brendan High School leases its athletic facilities to a third party independent contractors who are not affiliated with the school, parish, or Archdiocese. Although some such "camps" are held on school property, the school does not endorse, sanction, condone, supervise, insure, guarantee, or otherwise investigate employees, techniques or safety of camps. Parents must themselves determine the appropriateness and safety of the camps for their children.

PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC TEAMS

All qualified students may try out for an athletic team. The school is committed to providing everyone a fair chance to participate. Unfortunately, not everyone who tries out will be accepted.

The decision of the coach and his/her coaching staff, under the direction of the Director of Athletics and the Principal, is final. Parents are encouraged to help their children understand that not everyone will be selected. Parents are expected to read and abide by the guidelines in the St. Brendan High School Athletics Parent Guide, which can be found on the school's website, under athletics. Student-athletes participating in varsity and junior varsity sports are required to pay an athletic fee to offset the cost of transportation, uniforms, equipment, officials, and maintenance of facilities. **St. Brendan High School reserves the right to deny a student participation in any athletic or extra-curricular activity if the conditions outlined herein are not satisfied.**

As a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA), St. Brendan High School participates in the following sports: football, golf, swimming, volleyball, cross-country, cheerleading, basketball, soccer, baseball, lacrosse, softball, tennis, beach volleyball and track and field. St. Brendan High School also sponsors a dance team. **Students enrolled at St. Brendan High School may not participate and/or compete in representation of another school.** Please note that all athletic uniforms are property of St. Brendan High School and must be returned at the end of the given season.

Parents further hereby agree to release and hold harmless the Most Rev. Thomas Wenski as the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Miami, his successors in office, a corporation sole, Archdiocese of Miami, Inc.; St. Brendan High School, Inc., St. John Vianney College Seminary, Inc., their agents, employees, or corporate members from any and all liability, causes of action, suits, promises, damages, judgments, claims, and demands, whatsoever in law or equity, which the student, the parent, or any of their legal representatives may assert related to any injuries or damages sustained by the student or others arising from participation in such programs or activities.

GOOD CAUSE POLICY

A student-athlete who transfers to a school may participate in any team if the following criteria are met:

1. The student-athlete must have been enrolled in and attended school for at least six full school days prior to becoming eligible for athletic participation.
2. If the student is transferring from another Archdiocesan Catholic school, both principals involved must agree to the transfer.
3. The student-athlete must not have participated in the first official day of practice for the team at their previous school (by season).
4. All other local eligibility criteria (such as minimal academic performance) have been met (see 301.03).

NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS - ADOM

St. Brendan High School, as a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA), adheres to FHSAA regulations governing athletic competition. Pursuant to FHSAA rules, student-athletes must, with the limited exception of permissible NIL activities, maintain amateur status in order to participate in FHSAA-regulated athletic activities. Consequently,

student-athletes are prohibited from competing for monetary compensation, capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of a monetary nature, and/or signing a professional contract in any sport or having an agent to manage a student-athlete's athletic career. The school expects all student-athletes to strictly adhere to these conditions of athletic participation.

Student-athletes are permitted to benefit from their name, image, and likeness in accordance with FHSAA rules. This includes the ability to receive compensation for endorsements, appearances, and other activities related to NIL. No employees or agents of the school, including its coaches and administrators, are authorized to involve themselves with student NIL, or in contract offers or negotiations with any agents or other third parties offering any monetary compensation to students and/or parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are specifically advised that they should seek independent professional counsel in communications and negotiations with any agents or other third parties offering compensation and/or services to students.

All NIL agreements must be disclosed in writing to the school administration within seven days of signing. Student-athlete NIL activities may not conflict with any team practices, games, or other school-related activities. Student-athletes are prohibited from making any reference to any school of the Archdiocese of Miami when engaging in any commercial activity. For example, students may not wear a team jersey or otherwise display an Archdiocesan school's name, mascot, or logo while engaged in any commercial activity not specifically authorized in writing by the Archdiocese of Miami. Likewise, a student may not wear the apparel or display the logo, insignia, or identifying mark of any third party during any school-based team activity. The names, mascots, and logos of Archdiocese of Miami schools have legal protections and their commercial unauthorized use by a student or by a parent/guardian will constitute a serious violation of school policy and may have additional legal repercussions. In addition to compliance with FHSAA rules, student-athletes may not endorse products or services that are inconsistent with the values of St. Brendan High School and must at all times comport with the Conduct provision in this handbook and the policies and mission of St. Brendan High School and the Archdiocese of Miami.

ABSENCE AND ITS EFFECT ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students absent from school may not visit the school campus, participate in, or attend any extra-curricular activity or school function that occurs on that day without written permission from the Principal. Extra-curricular activities may include, but are not limited to, Prom, Junior Ring Ceremony, Grad Bash, dances, athletic events, etc.