

Lipscomb Academy Athletic Handbook

2025-2026



*"The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests in the Lord."
Proverbs 21:31*

The value of athletics in schools is significant, and no other area receives more public attention. Athletics can have an unmatched impact on the student-athletes, school and community that they serve in a profound and transcendent way. Numerous benefits are derived by participation in athletic programs, and ideally participation should provide a transformational experience. Athletics is an important part of the total school program and works in conjunction with other educational experiences to provide students the environment and opportunity to develop the values of character and leadership.

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LETTER FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Hey Mustang Nation,

Welcome to another exciting year of Lipscomb Academy Athletics! It's an honor to serve as your Athletic Director and to lead a community that is deeply committed to shaping young lives through the transformational power of sport. At Lipscomb Academy, we are not just building athletes—we are building lifelong learners and purposeful individuals who reflect Christ in all they do.

Our athletic program is an extension of the mission of Lipscomb Academy: to be a Christ-centered community that prepares learners for purposeful lives through rigorous academics and transformative experiences. In athletics, we bring this mission to life by creating an environment where our student-athletes can discover their identity beyond the scoreboard, grow in discipline, train their mindset, and strive for excellence both in the classroom and in competition.

Success for us goes far beyond wins and losses. It means helping student-athletes grow in faith, build character, and learn life lessons that will shape them long after their final game. We care deeply about the whole student-athlete. That's why we put the STUDENT first with weekly grade reports and eligibility education, spiritual development through mission trips and faith-based programming, social-emotional support within the school day, and a top-tier human performance program including a full-time athletic trainer, partnerships with healthcare professionals, and three strength and conditioning coaches.

But we cannot do this alone. We are a transformational community, coaches, student-athletes, and parents—each of us playing a vital role. Together, we commit to a code of conduct that reflects Christ, honors our coaches, respects opponents and officials, and models what it means to lead with integrity.

As we prepare our “horses for the day of battle,” we remember that true victory rests in the Lord (Proverbs 21:31). Thank you for trusting us to walk alongside your family in this journey. We are excited for what this year holds and are grateful you're part of Mustang Nation.

GO MUSTANGS:

Jake House

INTRODUCTION

The Lipscomb Academy Athletic Handbook is a reference guide for student-athletes, parents/legal guardians (hereinafter referred to as “parents”) and coaches, concerning the policies that govern interscholastic athletics at Lipscomb Academy (“LA”).

Interscholastic athletics is a very demanding but voluntary program. Students are not obligated to participate, and participation is not required for graduation. Thus, competition in high school athletics is a privilege and not a right. Accompanying this privilege is the responsibility to align with all standards established for the athletic programs. This privilege may be revoked if the student-athlete and/or parents fail or refuse to uphold these standards.

Thank you for your participation in our athletic program.

ATHLETICS AT LIPSCOMB ACADEMY

LA MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Christ-centered community preparing learners for purposeful lives through rigorous academics and transformative experiences. Our goal is to glorify God through the discipleship of student-athletes and the pursuit of excellence in athletics using the Bible as our foundation and Jesus Christ as our focus.

DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

We want to provide a transformative experience where student-athletes have a place to understand their identity beyond sports, train their mindset in and out of competition that allows to be their best self, teach discipline that is learned in sport but can also be used in life, and encourage the best performance in the classroom and on the athletic playing field.

THE PILLARS

1. Transformational Community
2. Spiritual Development
3. Academics
4. Social Emotional Support
5. Human Performance

TRANSFORMATIONAL COACHES

The coach is one of the most powerful influences in a student-athlete’s life. At Lipscomb Academy, coaches play a vital role in shaping not only athletic performance but also personal growth and character. They serve as examples of Christ-like behavior, demonstrating values that extend beyond the game. Their primary focus is the transformation of the student-athlete.

Aligned with a transformational coaching philosophy, Lipscomb Academy coaches are committed to pursuing excellence in both their sport and their relationships. They must be highly knowledgeable, well-prepared, skilled in motivating athletes, adaptable in competition, and effective in working with student-athletes, parents, and school leadership. Above all, they embrace the opportunity to use their platform to build character, foster community, and prepare young people for life. At Lipscomb Academy, the goal of coaching is not to be transactional, but to make a lasting difference in the lives of those they lead.

TSSAA MEMBERSHIP

Lipscomb Academy High School is a member of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA). The Academy participates as a Division II member and is expected to follow all [bylaws](#) established by the TSSAA.

There are three primary objectives that the member school of the TSSAA attempts to achieve through their bylaws: (1) maintaining athletics in its proper perspective as an education tool for member schools; (2) preventing the exploitation of student-athletes for athletic purposes; and (3) fostering fair competition, or a "level playing field," among the TSSAA member schools. While some particular bylaws may serve additional purposes, all of the bylaws should be read with these three overriding objectives in mind.

All coaches, student-athletes, parents, and representatives of Lipscomb Academy are expected to know and follow all TSSAA bylaws.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Lipscomb Academy student-athletes should be diligent in preparation, give 100% at all times, demonstrate personal discipline, be respectful in all situations, maintain self-control, show humility, and aggressively pursue excellence regardless of the score, opponent, time, referee, or situation. The ultimate responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the student-athlete, for it is the student-athlete who is accountable to his/her parents, coach, and school.

To maintain athletic eligibility at Lipscomb Academy, students and parents must uphold all policies - Academic, Commitment, Behavioral, etc - outlined in this handbook. In addition, all students must meet all eligibility requirements as established by the TSSAA for high school athletics, and by the HVAC for middle school athletics.

HVAC / TSSAA ELIGIBILITY

At the middle school level, Lipscomb Academy is a member of the Harpeth Valley Athletic Conference, and at the high school level, the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association. Each association has specific bylaws governing athlete eligibility, including but not limited to topics such as:

1. Enrollment
2. Academic Rules
3. Physicals and Consent Forms
4. Repeating Students
5. Eighth Grade Participation
6. Age Limit
7. Eight Semester Rule
8. Changing schools
9. Students Changing Schools
10. Amateur Rule
11. Award Rule

Any questions regarding HVAC / TSSAA eligibility should be directed to the Athletics Compliance Officer, Andrew Cameron prior to participating in athletic activities.

Students changing schools, repeating in middle school, who have participated on a high school team as an eighth grade student or hopes to participate on a high school team as an eighth grade student, must contact the Athletics Compliance Officer, [Andrew Cameron](#), prior to participating in athletic activities.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

A student-athlete must attend school on the days of an athletic practice and contest in order to participate in that practice or contest. Some specific exceptions are as follows:

1. Student-athletes must attend the majority of their in-person classes (i.e., four classes for a typical student who has six or seven classes). Exceptions may be made if the absence is pre-approved with appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's appointment with note, planned out-of-town trip, college visit). Lunch does not count toward the four periods.
2. Any unexcused absence from school, even if it is only for a partial day, will render a student-athlete unable to participate in the day's events.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Lipscomb Academy is a college preparatory school with high academic standards. These standards acknowledge that academic achievement takes precedence over athletic participation. Therefore, Lipscomb Academy academic standards have been established

at levels higher than those required by the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association ("TSSAA"). These standards, as well as specific eligibility/ineligibility

information are as follows:

1. All student-athletes must be enrolled in the number of courses required by the courses required with the [Program of Studies](#).
2. Each student-athlete will be assigned a letter grade (see the [Middle and Upper School Student Handbook](#)) as an evaluation for each course taken. Grades in all courses will count and will be weighted equally. Online courses must be approved in advance by the counseling department and meet TSSAA/NCAA regulations and a grade must be recorded for the course at quarter and semester.
3. Each student-athlete is assumed to be eligible for athletic participation until a declaration of ineligibility is made by the Head of Upper School, Director of Academic Support, and the Athletic Director. For the purpose of this policy:
 - a. An ineligible student-athlete will not be able to participate in any interscholastic athletic contest but the ineligible student-athlete's attendance at any such contests is required;
 - b. The ineligible student-athlete is expected to attend and participate in practices as scheduled (academic needs and support take precedence over practice with approval by the coach and/or the Athletic Director); and
 - c. Participating in summer work-outs, practices, and camps while ineligible will be at the coach's discretion with the approval of the Athletic Director.
4. Generally, for the purpose of ineligibility declaration, a student-athlete's quarterly grades and any incompletes will be the sole basis of consideration.
5. **ACADEMIC PROBATION**
 - a. Any quarterly composite unweighted grade point average between a 2.0 and 2.2 will result in the student-athlete being put on academic probation.
 - b. **Probation Guidelines:** Student-athletes will be put on academic probation with a Warning Letter if they have a quarterly composite unweighted grade point average between a 2.0 and 2.2. Grades will be reevaluated at the next formal gradient period.
6. **ACADEMIC INELIGIBILITY**
 - a. Any failing grade ("F") (at quarter), a quarterly composite unweighted grade point average of less than a 2.0, or an incomplete (INC) not made up within seven (7) days of the quarter or semester ending will render a student-athlete INELIGIBLE.
 - b. **Ineligibility Guidelines:** Student-athletes will be deemed ineligible and put on an Ineligibility Contract if they have any failing grades ("F") (at quarter), a

quarterly composite unweighted grade point average below a 2.0, or an incomplete (INC) not made up within seven (7) days of the end of the quarter or semester. Student-athletes must uphold the contract requirements to work towards eligibility until the next [formal](#), written student academic evaluation (i.e., midterm grades/progress reports) occurs. If the contract requirements are not met, student-athletes will remain ineligible until the next FORMAL, written student academic evaluation occurs.

7. Midterm grades (i.e., progress reports half way through the quarter) can help a student-athlete regain eligibility but will not be used to declare ineligibility unless the student-athlete fails to fulfill the obligations of the Eligibility Contract.
8. Once a student-athlete is declared ineligible due to academic shortcomings, the period of ineligibility will last until the next [formal](#), written student-athlete academic evaluation (i.e., midterm grades/progress reports) occurs. At that time, the entire academic record of the ineligible athlete will be re-evaluated. The academic criteria applicable for the quarterly grading period (no "F's" and a minimum unweighted grade point average of 2.0 for all courses enrolled in) will also be the standard of re-evaluation at the time of the next midterm grade/progress report. After the grades have been re-computed for the next midterm grade/progress report, any ineligible student-athlete regaining eligibility status (no "F's" and a minimum unweighted grade point average of 2.0 and no incompletes for all courses enrolled in) will be immediately deemed eligible and allowed to compete in interscholastic contests. If, however, an ineligible student-athlete does NOT re-establish eligibility at the time of the midterm grade/progress report, the student-athlete will remain ineligible and a meeting among the student-athlete, family, Athletic Director, Associate Head of Upper School, and Director of Academic Support can be scheduled to discuss how the student-athlete can be successful academically moving forward.
9. Weekly Reports will be sent out to head coaches on Monday morning. These reports will include a list of student-athletes who currently have recorded grades of 69.5% or lower, any missing assignments, and a snapshot unweighted grade point average of the current grades. Student-athletes who have grades 69.5% or lower and/or missing assignments will be encouraged to communicate with the Athletic Academics Director or Academic Counselors where additional support is needed.
10. The fourth quarter grading period is unlike the previous three quarters. Because of this, the student-athlete has the option of enrolling in an approved summer program designated by Academic Counseling, Academic Support, and/or Athletic Department (credit recovery or remediation hours) offered by the school if the student-athlete receives a failing grade ("F") in any subject, a quarterly composite unweighted grade point average of less than a 2.0, or an incomplete (INC) not

made up within seven (7) days of the end of the quarter. If the student-athlete decides not to participate in the summer program, he or she will start the next school year ineligible and cannot regain eligibility until the first midterm grading period. Any student-athlete who fails the second semester in any subject may regain eligibility by going to summer school/credit recovery if the following guidelines are met:

- a. Approval must be secured from the Upper School Academic Counseling and Associate Head of Upper School; and
 - b. The course must be completed and passed by July 31 and submitted to the Academic Counseling Office.
11. In the event a student-athlete has met all academic standards but drops significantly in academic performance during the time period when he or she is in no immediate danger of being declared ineligible, the head coach has the authority to institute measures of accountability to help the student-athlete get back on track.
12. The appeal procedure relative to eligibility for interscholastic participation in connection with any academic problems/policies is handled by submitting an appeal in writing to the Athletic Director, Associate Head of Upper School, and Director of Academic Support within three (3) days of the student-athlete becoming ineligible. The decision of the Athletic Director, Associate Head of Upper School, and Director of Academic Support shall be final and effective immediately (or as otherwise indicated by the Athletic Director).
13. Trying out for a team if ineligible - A student-athlete who is ineligible for interscholastic participation at the time team tryouts are held will be allowed to try out for the team. It should be understood that in situations where student-athletes are ineligible at the time of tryouts and/or at risk of losing their eligibility, the coaching staff will take careful consideration when selecting team members. When student-athletes are not eligible for interscholastic participation, the negative impact on team achievement and performance may be taken into account.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

GENERAL CONDUCT

All student-athletes shall adhere to the Lipscomb Academy Code of Conduct set forth in the [Middle and Upper School Student Handbook](#). Any violation or misconduct shall be subject to the disciplinary measures contained therein and are rendered by the appropriate Middle and/or Upper School authority. In consultation and coordination with

the Athletic Director, a coach may administer team-related sanctions with respect to applicable violations of the Code of Conduct by a student-athlete.

The conduct expectations of participants in athletics at Lipscomb Academy, in or out of school, year-round, shall be as set forth below. All rules regarding behavior and/or training as outlined in TSSAA regulations apply.

Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate the following behaviors and characteristics:

1. Integrity in the keeping of one's word, speaking the truth, carrying out responsibility, and respecting authority
2. Respect for self, Lipscomb Academy, coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, fans, and the property of others
3. Reconciliation through Biblical and appropriate repentance and forgiveness when offenses have been committed or received

Student-athletes are expected to refrain from the following behaviors and conduct:

1. Behavior discrediting Lipscomb Academy, teammates, coaches, or Jesus Christ
2. Disruptive influence on the discipline, moral, or educational environment in our school and athletics programs
3. Tardiness to class, practices or competitions
4. The inappropriate use of cellular phones, cameras, and other electronic devices.
5. Hazing
6. Any behavior or conduct in violation of the Code of Conduct as outlined in the Middle and Upper School Student Handbook, including, without limitation, the Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Use Policy and Bullying

HANDLING PROBLEMS AND SOLVING DISPUTES

Layers of Communication:

1. Each party should wait 24 hours before reaching out to the other party
2. Student-athletes should set up a meeting with the coach/coaching staff first.
3. Student-athletes, coaches, and parents should set up a meeting.
4. The student-athlete, parent, coach/coaches, and Athletic Director should meet.
5. If the parent or student-athlete feels that the foregoing process was not properly followed, then they can take the matter to the Head of School by placing their concerns in writing.

The decision of the Athletic Director shall be final and effective immediately (or as otherwise indicated by the Athletic Director). It is absolutely necessary that this chain-of-command be followed specifically. If not, the upper level authorities will direct the offended party to solve the problem at the appropriate level.

NOTE: Lack of playing time at the varsity level is not considered a dispute and should only be addressed with the coach by the parent after the student-athlete has discussed his or

her concerns with the coach. For more information, see the section below entitled "Playing Time Policy".

ANTI-HAZING POLICY

Hazing in any form is neither tolerated nor consistent with any spiritual, educational or athletic goal at Lipscomb Academy. Under Tennessee law, hazing means any intentional or reckless act on or off the school's property by one student acting alone or with others that is directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student or that induces or coerces a student to endanger that student's mental or physical health or safety. The specific behaviors or activities that may constitute hazing may vary widely among participants, groups, and settings, and are often actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization, such as a sports team. Typical hazing practices may include, without limitation: personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling; swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such substances on one's skin; brandings; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; and sexual simulation. Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism that subjects a student to extreme mental stress, embarrassment, shame, or humiliation that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from remaining in school may be considered hazing. Any activity that causes or requires the student to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or Lipscomb Academy policies or regulations may be considered hazing. Hazing in any form will not be tolerated at Lipscomb Academy and will result in disciplinary action. In consultation and coordination with school administration, a coach and/or the Athletic Director may administer team-related sanctions with respect to hazing.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying in any form is neither tolerated nor consistent with any spiritual, educational, or athletic goal at Lipscomb Academy. Bullying in any form will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary actions. See the [Middle and Upper School Student Handbook](#) section entitled "Harassment, Hazing, and 'Bullying'" for more information.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

A disciplinary action severe enough to warrant student suspension will eliminate the student-athlete from all participation in interscholastic athletics for the duration of the suspension. Therefore, any suspension out-of-school, will render a student-athlete ineligible to attend practice or any interscholastic contest that takes place during such suspension. After serving the suspension, the student-athlete's further eligibility for interscholastic participation may be assessed at the coach's discretion with approval from the Athletic Director.

COMMITMENT EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE AT PRACTICE AND GAMES

Each member of a Lipscomb Academy Athletic team must assume the responsibilities associated with being selected as a member of a team. The student-athlete, upon selection, has an ethical obligation to the team and the school that includes regular attendance at practices and athletic contests. Commitment to Lipscomb Academy teams should come before any club, outside team, or out of season sports practice for Lipscomb Academy. If a practice or competition is missed due to outside commitments, there will be consequences for missing the Lipscomb Academy practice or competition. It is possible, of course, that emergency situations may arise (e.g., illness, death in a family, etc.) that render it impossible for a student-athlete to attend a practice session or an athletic contest. Absences should be few and far between, arranged with the coach in advance or the coach should be notified immediately in the case of emergency. Examples of excused absences might include: college visits, ACT/SAT test dates, death in the family, etc..

When athletic team practices are scheduled and occur on school vacation days, all high school athletes are expected to be in attendance. If a conflict arises and the student-athlete may have to miss a practice, it is of utmost importance that the student-athlete communicates this with the coach immediately knowing that consequences may follow. Summer and off-season activities are strongly encouraged but cannot be required by coaches per TSSAA rules.

While there is no official TSSAA rule, it is recommended that each team member practice a minimum of five (5) separate days prior to the first contest. If a team member is moving from one season to the next within the same school year, the team member must practice a minimum of three (3) times or more before competing in a contest.

When a student-athlete misses practices/contests due to an extended injury or illness, he/she is required to participate in at least two (2) practices before returning to contest play. The final number will be determined by the athletic trainer in collaboration with the Head Coach and Athletic Director. Absences from practice sessions or athletic contests will be handled in the following manner:

Absence from Athletic Contest and/or Practice	
Excused absence	No action
Unexcused absence - 1st Offense	Conference with coach & student-athlete
Unexcused absence - 2nd Offense	Suspension from the next interscholastic contest

Unexcused absence – 3rd Offense	Dismissal from team (student-athlete forfeits all team awards)
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NO QUIT POLICY

If a student-athlete is fortunate enough to be selected for a position on one of the Lipscomb Academy athletic teams, it is important that he/she makes a firm commitment to that team. Therefore, quitting a team after being selected for the team is strongly discouraged. If any student-athlete quits a team after being selected as a member of that team, that student-athlete is prohibited from trying out for another Lipscomb Academy extracurricular team during the same season. Furthermore, it should be clearly understood that the action of any student-athlete quitting a team will certainly be among the criteria considered by coaches of subsequent teams on which a student-athlete desires a position. Exceptions may occur if the head coach and Athletic Director agree it is in the best interest of the student-athlete to no longer be a part of that team.

PLAYING TIME POLICY

While it is true that coaches and administrative personnel believe it to be important to broaden the experience of Lipscomb Academy student-athletes, and that broadening is enhanced by playing time, it is also an important goal of the Lipscomb Academy athletic program to strive toward excellence. Therefore, no minimum per game playing time provisions or minimum numbers of athletic meets in which athletes must compete are established at the Freshman, Junior Varsity, or Varsity level. Playing time decisions are left up to the individual coaches in their sole discretion and subject to any applicable restrictions set forth in this handbook.

STARTING A SEASON LATE

A student-athlete may start a season late if the reasons are acceptable to the coach and the Athletic Director, at their sole discretion. If a cut for the applicable team has already been made, the student-athlete must go through a two-day try out period. If the student-athlete is determined to be good enough to make the team, he or she may be added to the team. No other student-athlete who has made the team may be cut to make room for this student. The student-athlete must have a minimum of five (5) practices including the tryouts before he/she can participate in a contest. If they are moving from one season to the next within the same school year, a team member must practice a minimum of three (3) times. The five or three practices are also required when joining a team late that did not have a cut.

If a student-athlete transfers into Lipscomb Academy once a season has already begun, he or she will be considered as a new student with new opportunities and will be permitted to try out for a team.

MULTIPLE SPORT POLICY

To fully accomplish the mission statement of Lipscomb Academy Athletics, the coaches and athletic administrators encourage all student-athletes to participate in multiple sports if they desire to do so. We believe strongly in the opportunities that a multiple sport athlete has to develop Christian friendships, Christian character, more competitive experiences, reap the benefits of cross training, be mentored by a variety of our coaches, etc. than a single sport athlete.

If a student-athlete approaches a coach or athletic administrator about his/her thoughts on the pros and cons of being a multiple sport athlete, the coach or athletic administrator will carefully give the student-athlete an objective evaluation of his/her options. Never should a coach discourage participation in other sports. Coaches should share as much information with the student-athlete as possible to help him/her make the best-informed decision he/she can make.

OFF SEASON PRACTICE POLICIES

When a student-athlete makes a commitment to participate in a team sport, he/she is making a commitment to the team to be at his/her best/peak performance at all times during the season. The student-athlete is also facing the challenge of maintaining his/her academics at the highest level possible. Therefore, it is vital that coaches communicate and come to some agreement regarding off-season practice that is in the best interest of our student-athletes. As a reminder, out of season activities are strongly encouraged but cannot be mandatory.

These activities include:

1. Open gyms, scrimmages, pick-up games
2. Off season conditioning, weight training, and practices
3. Summer workouts and camps

Student-athletes may choose to participate in non-LA off-season sports outside the LA campus. This is permissible, but "club" sports must take a backseat to the student-athlete's LA team when it comes to schedule conflicts.

EXTRACURRICULAR CONFLICTS

If a conflict arises involving an athletic contest and an event related to another school activity, the coach and teacher/sponsor will discuss whether accommodations can be made to allow the student-athlete to participate in both events. If an agreement cannot be reached in this manner, the student-athlete and parent(s) will meet with the Athletic Director and the director/sponsor of the other school activity to reach an agreement regarding the student-athlete's participation in the conflicting events.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

PRE-SEASON PARENT MEETING

At least one parent of student-athletes is required to attend a pre-season meeting for all parents with the coaching staff of that sport. The meeting shall be held before the first contest. Parents will be informed of all team rules for their sport, as well as the rules of Lipscomb Academy, the TSSAA, and any other pertinent information to the season.

THE PARENT'S ROLE

Parents of student-athletes have a responsibility to both their child and the team. Without strong parental support, the student-athlete will not be able to achieve his/her greatest potential and/or the team may suffer. It is important that parents provide positive reinforcement and understand their role as part of the team.

Parents are expected to adhere to the same Code of Conduct as the players and coaches listed above as well as support the commitment policies as outlined in this handbook. Parents, as well as players, should be supportive and encourage coaches, student-athletes, and school at all times.

Parents are not coaches and learning to trust coaches is a key step to learning the value of the life lessons athletics provides. It is also important that parents honor the Lord when attending athletic events. In order for LA's athletic program to be successful, coaches, student-athletes, and parents must make a firm commitment to glorify God at all times.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Student-athletes are responsible for all equipment issued to them. Athletic uniforms are supplied for the sole purpose of athletic participation. This equipment is not to be used for any other purpose.

When the season is over, all equipment and uniforms are to be returned to the coach who will keep inventory of all items issued to the team. The coach will then submit the end-of-season inventory list to the Athletic Directors in a timely manner following the season.

The parent is responsible for the full replacement cost of any lost, stolen, or damaged school issued equipment or uniform.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

All student accounts must be current and in good standing with Lipscomb Academy. Any student with a Financial Account balance that is more than 60 days past due to Lipscomb Academy will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities. This includes team practices, rehearsals, competitions, and team workouts.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

PHYSICALS & CONSENT FORMS

Lipscomb Academy uses a platform called Healthy Roster to connect student-athletes, parents, coaches, academic counselors, and athletic trainers. Healthy Roster is an online tool used to upload and store documentation such as physicals and consent forms needed for student-athletes to be able to participate in athletics at LA.

Healthy Roster is also the location where athletic trainers or parents can document injuries, doctors' visits, return to play, and much more. Each student-athlete will create a profile and update information each year. You can find more information on Healthy Roster and Athlete Participation Packet on the [Lipscomb Academy Athletic Website](#) under the "Student Info" tab at the top.

For a student to be allowed to tryout or participate on any team activity, he/she and their parents must have signed electronically through Healthy Roster the following forms:

1. Physical Evaluation Form - **The TSSAA requires physicals to be dated between April 15 and the first official practice of each year.** The Sports Physical form used can be found on HealthRoster as well as the TSSAA Website [HERE](#).
2. Consent for Athletic Participation and Medical Care
3. Student-Athlete & Parent/Legal Guardian Concussion Statement Form
4. Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Form
5. Athlete/Parent/Guardian Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet and Acknowledgment of Receipt and Review Form
6. Acknowledgment of Risk, Release, and Medical Authorization Form
7. There may be other forms that may be required for participation on a team: a Player Pack/Participation Fee Form or meal forms as examples. These will be provided by the coach or LA Athletic Department.

ACCIDENT OR INJURY

If an accident or injury occurs, the student-athlete will be evaluated by our athletic trainer. The coach or parent should submit an accident report to the student-athletes Healthy Roster account within 24 hours. Parents will be contacted in the event of severe or significant injuries and consulted with by the athletic trainer and coach in any decisions made in regard to treatment and rehabilitation. Lipscomb Academy has one athletic trainer to help with the care and rehabilitation of injuries of student-athletes. The athletic trainer will recommend doctors and/or treatments to care from our sports medicine partners for the student, but the final treatment decision rests with the parents. Coaches treat any acknowledged condition in the confidential manner with which the information is related by the parent. If a student-athlete misses practice on the request of a physician, the student-athlete should have a note of clearance uploaded to HealthyRoster from that same physician before returning to practice. Please note that a student-athlete must

participate in at least two practices, if coming back from an extended injury or illness, before he or she is allowed to compete again as noted under the "Attendance at Practices and Games" section above.

- [Josh Lumpkin](#) - Certified Athletic Trainer
- [Bone and Joint Institute](#) - Doctor Partnership 2025-2026

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Lipscomb Academy fitness curriculum is a year-round strength and conditioning program designed explicitly for students in grades 8th-12th. Through instructional fitness, student-athletes are prepared for competition through instruction from highly qualified strength and conditioning instructors who desire to meet student-athletes where they are and challenge them to set and achieve higher goals. Upon completion of the program, Lipscomb Academy student-athletes will realize and understand the dynamics and importance of living a holistic, healthy lifestyle and will leave the Academy confident and competent in the world of health and fitness.

- [Dillon Seigenthaler](#) - Director of Human Performance

NUTRITION PROGRAM

We firmly believe that athletics is a key component of a holistic approach to education, and it is our goal to shape all of our student-athletes with experiences that prepare them to confidently reach their competitive goals. One of the important key elements in our circle of care approach is nutrition education. We have partnered with Lipscomb University to work closely with our teams and student-athletes to teach them the skills to fuel their bodies correctly to achieve their personal goals.

BAD WEATHER

Lightning, severe storms, hot and cold extremes - The Athletic Director in consultation with the coach, athletic trainer, and officials (during contests), will make decisions based on the Lipscomb Academy guidelines and TSSAA guidelines for student-athlete safety. On the day of games, decisions are made by the host school as close to team departure time as possible.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to away events is expected to be provided and/or arranged by the parents of the student-athlete when transportation cannot be provided by the school. At no time should student-athletes ride with a student driver without written or verbal consent of their parents. Coaches are responsible to stay with student-athletes returning from off campus events at night until all student-athletes have been picked up. Likewise, a coach must remain at an away event until all student-athletes have been picked up.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ATHLETICS WEBSITE

The best resource for information is our Athletics Website (www.lamustangs.org). Each sport has a dedicated page with links to communication from the coach, schedules, required forms, and team photos. Each team also has its own form of communication through weekly emails and by using communication apps such as Band, Ballfrog, TeamSnap, Twitter, or Instagram. The LA Athletic Department also uses the following means to communicate to parents: Eventlink for schedules, updates, and cancellations; Healthy Roster for form submissions and updates to injuries; and end-of-season updates and emails.

SCHEDULES

The scheduling of all athletic events and practices is determined by the coach in collaboration with the Athletic Director. The coach will issue a schedule to the student-athletes and parents as soon as possible before each season. Athletic contests should rarely be scheduled on Wednesdays (with the exception of Regional or TSSAA required contests) to allow for participation in church youth groups or classes. All Athletic Department sponsored team practices will end by 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Athletic practices may be scheduled on Saturdays and on rare occasions and only with approval from the Athletic Director on Sundays. At the high school level, athletic events may be scheduled on a day or weekend when school is out or during fall, winter, or spring breaks. When this is determined to be necessary, the dates will be given out as far in advance as possible, and all student-athletes are expected to be in attendance.

CANCELLATIONS

It may be necessary at times to cancel games and practices at the last minute due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. We will update game cancellations on the athletics Twitter and Eventlink as soon as practicable. Coaches will use their team communication app to communicate any changes and/or cancellations. If it is a home event that we have scheduled, the Athletic Director and coach will try to make the cancellation call by 2:30 p.m. if at all possible. If it is an away event, the opposing school Athletic Director and coach make the cancellation call.

ATHLETIC PICTURES - TEAM AND INDIVIDUALS

A professional photographer from Lipscomb Academy Photo Studio will take team and individual pictures early in each season. Digital downloads and prints may be purchased by the student-athletes or parents via the online gallery [HERE](#). Any additional questions or concerns can be addressed to photo@lipscombacademy.org.

LETTERING AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

In all sports, a player must complete the season and must have remained academically eligible to complete the following individual sport requirements for earning a varsity letter:

1. **Baseball and Softball:** Must have averaged three (3) innings per seven (7) inning game or one (1) at bat per total games played and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
2. **Basketball:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of quarters played and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
3. **Bowling:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of matches played and/or competed in the TSSAA state tournament
4. **Cheerleading:** Successfully complete the season as determined by the coach.
5. **Cross Country:** Top five (5) plus one to five (1-5) more if they were competitive and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
6. **Football:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of quarters played and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
7. **Golf:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of varsity matches and / or had a counting score in one-quarter of the varsity matches and / or made the TSSAA regional roster as a starter or alternate.
8. **Hockey:** Must participate in a minimum of 50% of regular season games and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
9. **Soccer:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of halves played and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
10. **Swimming:** Letters are awarded based on a point-system whereby 90% of the total points must be earned. Points are received based on practice attendance, meet performance, and/or participation in the state competition.
11. **Tennis:** Top seven (7), plus one to two (1-2) more if they competed in half of the varsity matches
12. **Track/Field:** Must score one and one-fourth (1-1/4) point average per total number of regular season meets run and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
13. **Volleyball:** Must have competed in one-half of the total number of games played and/or made the TSSAA tournament roster
14. **Trap:** Must complete the season as a high school athlete at the varsity level.

TEAM FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

All team fundraising projects must be presented to and approved by the coach and Athletic Director. Only after the project has been approved is the team allowed to go ahead with the fundraiser.

MUSTANG ATHLETIC CLUB

The mission of the Mustang Athletic Club ("MAC") is to serve the student-athletes of Lipscomb Academy through the generation of financial, volunteer, and fan support. The MAC works closely with the administration and coaches to accomplish this for all athletic programs at Lipscomb Academy. The funds raised through membership, donations, and other fundraising events help support and fund a variety of athletic initiatives and projects.

SCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

The interscholastic sports currently being offered at the high school level at Lipscomb Academy are:

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
Co-ed Cross Country	Boys Basketball	Baseball
Cheerleading		Boys Soccer
Boys Golf	Girls Basketball	Softball
Girls Golf	Boys Bowling	Boys Tennis
Girls Soccer	Girls Bowling	Girls Tennis
Football	Hockey	Co-ed Track & Field
Girls Volleyball	Co-ed Swimming	Trap
Bass Fishing		

CONTACTS

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT STAFF

Athletic Director:

Stefine “Jake” House

Office: 615.966.6440

Cell: 785.224.0099

Email: stefine.house@lipscomb.edu

Assistant Athletic Director for High School *with an emphasis in Middle School Athletics*:

Kevon Bagot

Office: 615.966.6399

Cell: 713.294.0737

Email: kevon.bagot@lipscomb.edu

Assistant Athletic Director *with an emphasis in Academics & Spiritual Formations*:

Maddi Booser

Office: 615.966.6404

Cell: 567.712.1252

Email: mbooser@lipscomb.edu

Athletic Compliance:

Andrew Cameron

Office: 615.966.6227

Email: andrew.cameron@lipscomb.edu

Athletic Coordinator:

Kim Schow

Office: 615.966.6447

Cell: 615.210.6378

Email: kim.schow@lipscomb.edu

Athletics Operations Coordinator:

Ryan Bariteau

Office: 615.966.6291

Cell: 831.234.2752

Email: ryan.bariteau@lipscomb.edu

HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS AND COACHES

High School Sport	High School Coaches	Email
Athletic Trainer	Joshua Lumpkin	jalumpkin@lipscomb.edu
Human Performance	Dillon Seigenthaler	dillon.seigenthaler@lipscomb.edu
Baseball	Brad Coon	bradley.coon@lipscomb.edu
Bass Fishing	Tyler Mason	tyler.mason@lipscomb.edu
Boys Basketball	Kevin Starks	kevin.starks@lipscomb.edu
Girls Basketball	Becky Starks	rstarks@lipscomb.edu
Bowling	Diana Benson	diana.benson@lipscomb.edu
Cheerleading	Whitney Cadavid	wwcadavid@lipscomb.edu
Cross Country	Todd Cunningham	todd.cunningham@lipscomb.edu
Football	Trent Dilfer	trent.dilfer@lipscomb.edu
Golf	Ben Pellicani	ben.pellicani@lipscomb.edu
Hockey	Patrick Murray	pmurray1024@gmail.com
Boys & Girls Soccer	Nate Chatfield	nate.chatfield@lipscomb.edu
Softball	Josh Story	jjstory@lipscomb.edu
Swimming	Meaghan Raab	meaghan.raab@lipscomb.edu
Tennis	Richard Hood	richard.hood@lipscomb.edu
Boys & Girls Track	Dillon Seigenthaler	dillon.seigenthaler@lipscomb.edu
Trap	Diana Benson	diana.benson@lipscomb.edu
Volleyball	Jake House	stefine.house@lipscomb.edu