SWIFT ATHLETICS HANDBOOK

Welcome to Swift School's Athletic Program! We are excited to provide a variety of sporting activities to our students. Swift sport teams offer fun, developmental, athletic opportunities designed to build character, confidence, and camaraderie.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

I. GENERAL ATHLETICS INFORMATION (pg. 2)
   A. Purpose Statement
   B. Sports Offered
   C. Participation Fee
   D. No-Cut Policy
   E. Informed Participation Consent
   F. Student-Athlete Photo Release
II. SPARTAN STUDENT-ATHLETE AGREEMENT(pg. 3)
III. PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT (pg. 3)
IV. TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (pg. 4)
   A. Swift Athletic Transportation Policy
   B. Late Pickup Fee Policy
V. SWIFT HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES (pg. 4-5)
   A. Medical Release Agreement
   B. Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy

I. GENERAL ATHLETICS INFORMATION

A. Purpose Statement

We strive for our Athletics Program to reflect the transformative, immersive, and positive qualities of the Swift Effect with special focus on building confidence, developing life skills, and maximizing the potential for camaraderie and fun.

B. Sports Offered (based on interest)

Fall Sports - Soccer, Cross Country, Cheer
Winter Sports - Basketball, Cheer
Spring Sports - Flag Football

C. Participation Fee

Participants are expected to materially support the Swift Middle School Athletic Program via a direct participation fee. Fee may vary per sport or club.

D. No-Cut Policy

Swift School has a no-cut policy. Teams are co-ed unless participation reaches a level to field both a boys' and girls' team (per specific sport). This means any student in sixth through eighth grade who has a desire to play on a team is allowed and is encouraged to fully engage in all team training/practice and/or camaraderie activities.

E. Informed Participation Consent

Swift School has a responsibility to make the families/guardians of participants aware of the dangers of athletic competition. Upon registering their student-athlete for participation, parents/guardians acknowledge they are aware of the inherent risks associated with athletic training and competition (practices and games), no matter how many precautions are taken. These risks include, but are not limited to: various contusions, scrapes, cuts, sprains, fractures, concussions or head/brain injuries, and other serious conditions.

As the parent/guardian of a student-athlete, there is also the implied agreement that your child must follow all guidelines given by the coaching staff regarding training rules, safety measures and procedures, proper use of equipment, and legal and safe playing techniques. These procedures are in place to ensure a safe, fun, and developmentally-appropriate environment. **All student-athletes are required to have a signed athletic physical exam form on file before participating in any team sport. One physical will cover the student athlete for the entire school year.**

F. Photo Release

In accordance with general Swift enrollment policy, I understand that photos of athletes may be published unless a written no-photo request is submitted to Swift.

II. SPARTAN STUDENT-ATHLETE AGREEMENT

Playing on an athletics team is a very exciting opportunity to represent my school and community, and one that comes with certain extra responsibilities. As a Spartan Student-Athlete, I will conduct myself in a manner respectful to myself and others, practice self-discipline, and obey the rules and regulations of the school.

By accepting a position with my chosen team, I understand that I am responsible for:

- being a positive and supportive teammate
- respecting my coaches, opponents, and game officials
- putting forth my best effort
- performing in a safe and fair manner

I understand that any violation on my part that results in disciplinary action(s) from the school will also apply to my participation in sporting activities, per my coach and/or Athletic Director's discretion.

Personal cell phones, tablets, laptops, and/or other electronic devices are not allowed before or during practice or games without the permission of my coach (health-related exceptions may apply with written acceptance).

Any violation during an athletic competition will affect my opportunity to participate in future games/matches/meets/etc at the discretion of my coach, Athletic Director, or the competition director.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct* will not be tolerated by Swift School athletes.

**includes but is not limited to: fighting, pushing/shoving, other unnecessary physical conduct, throwing things, cursing/profanity, taunting, and/or other physical or verbal actions deemed inappropriate by athletic leadership*

III. PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Through its Athletic Program, Swift School strives to provide an inclusive, positive, sporting environment. **All actions, statements, and support by the Swift family spectators should reflect this policy.**

All parents/guardians, family members, students, and other spectators shall conduct themselves in a respectful manner conducive to modeling good sportsmanship. They shall refrain from all conduct, physical or verbal, that may be construed as degrading, baiting, intimidating, or hampering of a positive sporting environment. Actions that discredit any player, opponent, official, coach, or other performer or spectator will not be tolerated.

Instances that break from adherence to the above policies may be met with current and/or future consequences in relation to Swift Athletics, such as expulsion from current events or suspension from future events. Decisions will be made at the discretion of Swift administration and leadership.

I understand the above information/policies and commit to conducting myself and those spectators for which I am responsible in a manner that adheres to the Swift School Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct.

IV. TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

A) Swift Student-Athlete Transportation Policy Agreement

As a parent/guardian of a Swift student-athlete, I understand that my child may travel to other schools and related venues within the Atlanta area to participate in practices, scrimmages, and/or other games on a school-owned vehicle. The vehicle is insured according to legal requirements and will be driven by approved Swift staff. Misconduct on the Swift bus or failure to observe motor vehicle laws relating to passenger transportation can result in suspension from team play and/or loss of transportation privilege for the student-athlete.

B) Late Pickup Fee Policy

Parents are asked to be mindful of the time commitment made by our coaches and players. Late pick-ups after practices, games, or other sporting events can cause a burden on both coaches and athletes. Specific sport schedules will clarify designated pick-up times and off-campus commutes will often be communicated through Teamsnap, FACTS or PikMyKid systems.

Late pick-up of student-athletes will result in a fee assessed to parents of the athlete.

Initial, minor (less than 15 minute) late pick-ups will be met with a reminder of Swift's late pick-up policies; however, repeated and/or more serious lateness can result in fees and, if deemed appropriate, the necessity to remove a student from team participation.

V. SWIFT ATHLETICS HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

As an extension of Swift School, athletic participants and spectators are expected to follow our current health and safety policies. For reference, all current Swift policies and protocols can also be found in the Swift Family Handbook. The safety of our student-athletes is of paramount importance.

A) Medical Release Information

In the event that I (parent/guardian) cannot be reached, I hereby authorize the administrator or coach in charge, as agent to the student, to consent to any anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision of any physician or surgeon licensed under the provision of the Medical Practice Act., whether such diagnosis or treatment be rendered at a medical facility or hospital.

Every student participating in Swift Athletics must be covered by medical insurance. Please indicate the insurance carrier that insures your son/daughter, the policy number, and the name of your family physician.

If you do not have insurance, your student is not eligible for participation in the Swift Athletics program.

B) Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy

Necessary precautions and/or modifications shall be made to any and all Swift Athletics events in the event that severe, inclement weather is present or expected. Weather conditions encompassed by this policy include, but are not limited to: lightning strikes, heavy rainfall, dangerous outdoor conditions, etc.

In the case of severe heat/humidity or severe cold/wind, appropriate health precautions for our student-athletes will also be taken. Procedures for lightning, elevated heat levels, and extreme cold are listed. All Swift health and safety policies can be found in the Parent Handbook.

SWIFT ATHLETICS HEALTH PROTOCOLS:

- Weather and outdoor safety conditions will be checked by the Athletic Director multiple times throughout each day with scheduled Swift Athletics event(s).
- Multiple tools and resources will be used to gather best information for making decisions regarding health, safety, and well-being of all Swift Spartan student-athletes.
- In the case of any necessary modifications or cancellations to athletic events, Parents/Guardians of all student-athletes will be notified ASAP via email, TeamSnap, and/or phone.

LIGHTNING - If any of the following take place, a mandatory 15-minute delay shall be immediately implemented for any outdoor athletic activities and all student-athletes will be taken to shelter until conditions return to safe levels:

- Lightning strike within 10 miles of the event location are seen by the Athletic Director during any weather radar checks
- Lightning strike is visibly seen during outdoor activity
- Thunder is heard near the field/court, etc. and judged to be near the team's current location

Michael Lytle, Athletic Director
Daniel McCormick, Athletic Director
Melissa Jozefov, Middle Division Director