



2017-2018 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Athletics at The Grosse Pointe Academy

Striving to win the game is an important objective of the contest, but it is not the most important objective of sports participation. The long-term objectives of helping athletes develop physically, build character, hone leadership skills, acquire a basic code of ethics, and form a positive self- image will keep the short-term objective of winning in perspective.

When winning is kept in perspective, our athletic program creates young people who enjoy sports, strive for excellence, dare to take risks in order to learn, and grow with both praise and constructive criticism.

Our goal at the Academy is to provide the structure and rules that allow athletes to learn, to set goals, and to strive to achieve them.

Athletic Code of Conduct

We have the highest expectations for our athletes as they conduct themselves on and off the fields or courts. All the school regulations in the student handbook apply to the athletes as they participate in interscholastic sports.

In addition to the school's Code of Conduct, coaches may bench athletes or suspend them from an event for unsportsmanlike conduct, inappropriate bus behavior, skipping of team events, poor attitude, no uniform, or inappropriate behavior. Athletes may be suspended for longer periods of time for repeat or serious offenses.

Getting Started

All middle school students are required to participate in at least one after school interscholastic sports team per year. All participants who attend practice regularly and maintain academic eligibility will play on game day.

Sports Physicals

No student/athlete shall be eligible to participate in an athletic event (practice or game) unless there is a physician's statement on file in the office of the Athletic Director for the current school year. A physician's statement for the current school year is interpreted as a physical examination given on or after April 15 of the previous school year. This statement must certify that the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. Both parent and physician are to record necessary information on an official MHSAA Medical History Form, which is available online.

Schedules

Team schedules are posted online at gacademy.org. Daily updates including return times, rainouts, and other last minute changes will be sent via email and posted on the GPA calendar.

Eligibility Requirements

Grade Level

All fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are eligible to participate.

School Absences

Students must be in school for at least a half day to participate in a game or practice. (A half day is defined as attending four class periods.) No student may participate on days he or she is absent from school. Possible exceptions are:

- Student is visiting a high school for the day
- Unavoidable medical appointments
- Spelling or Geography Bees

Detentions

Detentions must be served before the student may participate in after school sports.

Suspensions

Students on in-school or home suspensions serve a 2-day moratorium from after school sports per day suspended.

Academic Eligibility

Students need to maintain a 2.0 (C) grade point average to ensure eligibility. Students on academic probation may participate only as long as the conditions of the probation established by the Middle School principal are met.

Assignments

Students who are behind in their school work, including incomplete projects, incomplete homework assignments, or missed tests, may be required by their teachers to stay after school in lieu of athletics to fulfill these obligations.

Injuries

Students with a physical injury excusing them from Physical Education classes are not eligible to participate until released by a physician.

Attendance

Practices are essential for proper conditioning, improvement of technique, and teamwork skills. Athletes are required to attend scheduled practices. Coaches will take daily attendance and keep season records of students' attendance. Athletes who skip practices or games may be held back from game participation by the coach. A student must attend at least 70% of all team events to meet his or her athletic requirement and to receive a participation certificate at the athletic assembly.

No town, club, or other athletic team is to take precedence over the school team. If a child or family find themselves in conflict with this policy, please schedule a meeting with the Athletic Director. In most cases the conflicts are not as serious as perceived and when they do exist, there are generally creative ways to allow the athlete to meet both of the obligations while continuing to satisfy the above athletic policy.

Uniforms

Athletes are issued a complete uniform and necessary equipment at the start of the season. Names with numbers of the uniforms and equipment are recorded. Uniforms are to be returned at the end of the season.

Game Day

All team members are required to wear the team uniform for games. Athletes not in complete uniform will be withheld from competition that day.

Care

Uniforms should be cleaned and washed regularly and returned at the end of the season. Uniforms and equipment are expensive and should be stored in a locked locker at school each day.

Lost Uniforms and Equipment

Athletes not returning equipment or uniforms at the end of the season will be charged the replacement cost of the uniform or equipment.

Seasons

Fall	Boys' Tennis Girls' Volleyball Boys and Girls Cross Country
-------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------

The fall season runs from the first day of school in September to late October.

Winter	Boys' Basketball Girls' Basketball
---------------	---------------------------------------

The winter season will run from mid-December through the end of February.

Spring	Girls' Tennis Girls' Soccer Grades 7/8 Lacrosse Grades 5/6 Lacrosse
---------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The spring season will run from early April to late May.

Team Selection

All middle school students that come out for a sport will make a varsity or junior varsity team. We have a "No Cut Policy." It will be the option of the head coach to position players and determine varsity and junior varsity needs.

Playing Time

All players who demonstrate a genuine interest and uphold the school's expectations for sportsmanship will be afforded an opportunity to play in each game. At the JV level, consistent effort and attendance lead to nearly equal playing time (game specific). At the Varsity level, effort, attendance, and ability are used to determine playing time in game situations.

Athletic Awards and Recognition

Following each season, team accomplishments and individual awards will be recognized at team parties and in a grade 4-5 chapel.

Daily Bulletin

A brief summary of the games is placed in the daily bulletin for everyone to read.

Athlete of the Year

At the end of the school year, the Athletic Department and coaches will recognize one outstanding boy and one outstanding girl athlete.

Athletes of the Year are evaluated on their:

Sportsmanship	Number of sports played
Athletic performance	Academic standing
Team leadership	Attendance
Competitiveness	Working to potential
Willingness to help younger players	Coachability

Pick-up After Practice and Games

It is expected that students will be picked up within 15 minutes of the end of events. Students not picked up after practice will be taken to After Care by the coach. There is a charge for this service. Schedules have end and return times for all events. Should an end time change, students will be allowed to use cell phones to notify their parents. After Care will not be available after 6 p.m. In the event a parent is late, the coach will remain with the child until he or she is picked up. Students not picked up within 15 minutes may result in the student not being eligible to attend away sporting events.

Athletic Events - Directions to Schools

Academy of the Sacred Heart.....(248) 646-8900
1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Detroit Country Day School.....(248) 646-7717
22305 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Farber Hebrew Day School *(formerly Akiva).....(248) 386-1625
21100 West 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48076
*Soccer games will be held at Catalpa Oaks 27705 Greenfield Rd. Southfield, MI 48076

Greenhills School.....(734) 769-4010
850 Greenhills Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Hillel*(248) 851-3220
32200 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, MI 48323
Tennis matches -Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge , 27055 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Holy Name(248) 851-3220
Birmingham Athletic Club, 4033 W. Maple Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

Inter-City Baptist(313) 928-6900
4700 Allen Road, Allen Park, MI 48101

L'Anse Creuse Middle School.....(586) 493-5620
34641 Jefferson Ave., Harrison Township, MI 48045

L'Anse Creuse High School.....(586) 783-6400
38459 L'Anse Creuse St., Harrison Township, MI 48045

Oakland Christian.....(248) 373-2700
3075 Shimmons Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Parkway Christian(586) 446-9900
14500 Metro Parkway, Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Athletic Events - Directions to Schools

Plymouth Christian Academy.....(734) 459-3505
43065 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187

The Roeper School (Lower School).....(248) 203-7406
41190 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

*Soccer will be held at the Ultimate Soccer Arena 867 S Blvd. E Pontiac, MI 48341

All volleyball and basketball games will be held in the Community Center building on the Lower School campus.

Shrine Knights(248) 548-7500
Red Run Golf Club, 2037 Rochester Road, Royal Oak, MI 48074

Southfield Christian.....(248) 357-3662
28650 Lahser Road, Southfield, MI 48034

St. Regis(248) 646-2686
Birmingham Athletic Club, 4033 W. Maple Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

* Tennis matches will be held at the Birmingham Athletic Club.

University Liggett School.....(313) 884-4444
1045 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

Times and locations of sporting events are subject to change.