

Bethlehem Lutheran Chargers Athletics

2024-2025 ATHLETIC CONTRACT

Philosophy

We feel athletic competition can help one learn how to glorify God effectively in all areas of life. Every athlete does well when he knows what to do. This idea applies to representing Jesus in athletics as well as carrying out athletic assignments. The Bible tells us everything we need to do to represent Jesus in all aspects of life. The Bible is filled with principles that can be applied directly to athletics. Coaches and athletes have a responsibility to do their best in representing Jesus by preparing mentally & spiritually for what calls them to do.

Sport Level Philosophy

"A" Team: While individual and team skills continue to be developed, participation at this level is more competitive. Team success & winning are more of a goal at this level. Coaches may exceed more than three (3) practices and games in a week to meet the competitive needs of the team. Student-athletes must be willing to discover and accept their role on the team, which may include unequal playing time. Playing time will be based on the athlete's attitude, practice presence, and skill levels. Absence from games, practices, and arriving late or leaving early may result in loss of playing time. As a need arises, students at the "B" level may be asked to participate at the "A" level. This is done only under agreement with the parent(s), coach and athletic director. League rules generally do not allow 8th graders to participate below the "A" level.

"B" Team: This level of participation is again developmental, with greater attention given to technique and team skills. Team success is more of a priority but not the main emphasis. Student-athletes must be willing to discover and accept their role on the team, which may include unequal playing time. Coaches are encouraged to involve all players. However, playing time will be based on the athlete's attitude, practice presence, and skill levels. Absence from games, practices, and arriving late or leaving early may result in loss of playing time. As a need arises, students at the "B" level may be asked to participate at the "A" level. This is done only under agreement with the parent(s), coach and athletic director.

"C" Team (Saturday Morning Basketball): This level exist primarily for the development of fundamental skills and basic understanding of the rules. Team success is not overemphasized, but rather the focus is on the development of the team and individual skills. Scores are reset at each quarter to deter too much focus on winning at this level. Coaches are encouraged to involve all team members and provide relatively equal playing time.

Objectives of Participation

To Glorify God with our talents & express thankfulness for our God-given gifts.

To practice Christian love among students, parents and coaches.

To provide Christian discipline when a problem arises.

To develop character traits such as responsibility, leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork and self-control.

To stimulate school spirit and pride without compromising respect towards others.

To prepare our students for advanced levels of athletic participation by developing fundamental skills and knowledge of the rules.

Volunteer Requirements

Each Family must sign up for the required slots per the volunteer policy or pay required participation fee before any student-athlete can compete in a game for that season.

Team and Individual Discipline

Each coach will have discipline rules for minor infractions, such as inattention to direction, horseplay, tardiness to practices, etc.

Athletic Contest

Spectator Decorum

Athletic contests are full of emotions, excitement, and competition. We are here to support, encourage, and praise the athletes. We ask that everyone set a positive example by controlling their emotions in dealing with the referees, players, fans, etc. Players, coaches and referees will all make mistakes because we live in an imperfect world. Expressing negative or complaining comments only detracts from allowing the children to enjoy their experiences. Please focus on giving positive vocal support to players, referees, coaches, and other fans. We ask that everyone relate respectfully our Christian love with one another regardless of the outcome of an athletic contest.

PLEASE NOTE: the following websites:

<http://www.bethlehemsaginaw.org/school/athletics>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/BLChargers/>

For any other questions and concerns, please review the full Athletic Handbook on Bethlehem's website under the "Athletics" tab.

Bethlehem Lutheran Chargers Athletics

2024-2025 ATHLETIC CONTRACT

Parents/Guardians:

As parents, we will support the Bethlehem Lutheran Athletic Program, the coaches, and the entire team. We know and understand that the physical/medical consent form and this contract must be turned in before any participation can occur. We have read the volunteer policy and agree to help or we will pay a fee for participation in our child's sport. We will arrange for transportation for our child to his/her practices and games. Most of all, we will help, encourage and set a Christ-centered example for our children. We have read the Athletic Handbook and have shared the information with our child. We also agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in the Athletic Handbook. We will respect and abide by the decisions made by the Bethlehem Lutheran Athletic Administration and its coaches. We have also read the League Sportsmanship Policy and agree to abide by its guidelines.

I hereby give permission for _____ to participate in _____
(Athlete's name) (List all sports)

Parent's Signature

Date

Athletes:

I understand the being part of the Bethlehem Lutheran Athletic Program is a privilege. I will support my team and coaches at all times. I will always give God the glory in all I do on and off the athletic field/court. I understand that my Christian attitude and academics come first, and if I fail to keep those standards as highlighted in the Athletic Handbook, I risk the chance of being dismissed from the team. I also know that my physical/medical consent form and this contract must be turned in before I can participate on any team. I also agree and abide by the decisions made by the Bethlehem Lutheran Athletic Administration and its coaches.

Athlete's Signature

Date