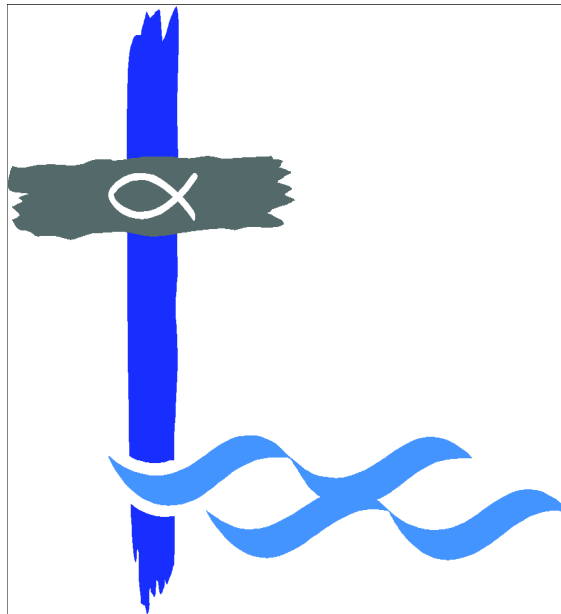


# Wolf River Lutheran High School



## Athletic Handbook

**2023 – 2024**

**Approved: 6/13/2023**

### **Mission Statement:**

The Mission of Wolf River Lutheran High School is to grow and prepare tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ.

### **School Theme for 2023-2024**

**“Connected”** based on John 15:1-5: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4** Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. **5** “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

# **Welcome to the Wolf River Lutheran High School Athletic Program!**

*We are so excited that your child has chosen to join our schools' sports program. Wolf River Lutheran High School is currently working towards becoming a member of the W.I.A.A. (Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association).*

*We offer teams in Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Golf, Trap, and Track. Our school colors are silver and blue. Our school teams are known as the Silver Eagles.*

*As budget and student interest allow, athletic teams will be provided for both genders. In sports where teams for each gender are not offered, girls may participate on boys' teams in non-contact sports. In the interest of fair competition, boys are not allowed to participate on girls' teams as recognized by the WIAA.*

## **Attendance and Enrollment Policies for Athletics**

- A. A student shall be ineligible for an interscholastic competition if he or she reaches his or her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1 or of any given school year.
- B. A student has eight consecutive semesters of potential eligibility, starting with the first semester of his or her 9th-grade year. A fifth-year senior is not eligible to participate unless a waiver is granted by the WIAA.
- C. Students must be in attendance by at least the beginning of the third period and stay the rest of the school day in order to be eligible to compete or practice that day and remain the rest of the school day. The only exceptions to this rule include:
  - Absences due to dental, medical appointments (students must provide a written note from the doctor or dentist).
  - Funerals
  - College visits (students must bring back written documentation of visit)
  - Special occasions as pre-approved by the Administrator
- D. A coach/advisor will exercise prudence in allowing a student who is absent due to illness on a Friday to play over the weekend.
- E. Student-athletes must reside full-time with parents/guardians in their primary residence.
- F. **Transfer, with no complete change of residence, eligibility is determined as follows:**
  - a. **Transfer before school begins:**
    1. **Students entering 9th or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and within the first four consecutive semesters of High school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules are met.**
    2. **Students entering 11th grade are restricted to non-varsity for one year (365 days).**
    3. **Students entering 12th grade are ineligible to compete.**
  - b. **Transfer during the school year:**
    1. **9th grade students will be eligible for non-varsity competition until the end of the school year.**
    2. **10th and 11th grade students will be eligible for non-varsity competition for 1 calendar year (365 days).**
  - c. **A student who transfers without ever participating in a try-out, practice, scrimmage or contest is unrestricted.**
- G. Foreign exchange students may be granted one year of eligibility if they come to a school through a Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) approved exchange program. These students are not eligible until the appropriate form has been submitted to the WIAA and eligibility has been granted.
- H. A student that transfers from one school to another, with a suspension due to athletic code violation(s) from the previous school, must serve that mandated suspension at the new school.
- I. The student is responsible for making up missed work and getting assignments when circumstances dictate that his or her team must leave school early.
- J. **It is Wolf River Lutheran High School's desire to field teams with our own athletes, however, if we need help in fulfilling a team, outside students may be considered.**

## **Athletic Fees**

If your child chooses to play an athletic sport, **there is a \$55 fee per sport, not to exceed \$110 per child per school year.** The fee helps to cover the cost of the referees and equipment and to help support the athletic program. **All sports fees are due before the first practice.**

### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

If your child participates in any sport, each family is asked to volunteer to work at least three home shifts not to exceed nine per school year. The WRLHS Boosters will schedule families to work at athletic events. If a conflict arises, please assist the Boosters in finding a replacement for your shift. (8/10/2021)

Volunteer duties may include but not limited to:

- Concessions (18 or older)
- Ticket taking (18 or older)
- Scoreboard and Clock
- Scorebook
- Volleyball line judges

If for some reason your family cannot afford the funds requested for your child to participate in our athletic program, please contact the principal to discuss other options.

### ***Dress Code***

Wolf River Lutheran High School students are expected to present a positive image and be the best they can be in all things. Neatness, cleanliness, and modesty are expected in dress and in personal hygiene and should demonstrate a concern for Christian witness to fellow students and to the community. Choice in clothing, accessories or personal appearance inclined to draw attention and deemed to be excessive will be subject to disciplinary action. **Tattoos that are not in compliance with the school's core values must be covered during school and school events.**

### ***NO EXCUSE IS ACCEPTABLE FOR NOT BEING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRESS CODE!***

Students are responsible for the decisions they make. Not doing or wearing what is excessive or questionable avoids confrontation and conflict. Students judged to be in non-compliance by a teacher will be sent to the school office for further action. The administration has final authority regarding dress code violations.

### ***Required Athletic Forms***

As an athlete, you ARE NOT eligible to practice or participate with any team UNTIL the following items have been completed and filed in the school office.

- A. Physical examination card (traditionally 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades) filled out by a physician or advanced practice nurse practitioner, OR an alternate year card (traditionally 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade years). A physical examination taken on April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years; a physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for the remainder of that school year and the following school year.
- B. Emergency card signed by parent/guardian.
- C. **Athletic Fee Paid**
- D. Information is available on the Internet regarding the option of purchasing sports-specific accident insurance if you do not have any health insurance or would like an additional plan.
  - Please notice that all athletes and co-curricular participants of WRLHS are responsible for knowing and abiding by the athletic and co-curricular codes and rules as printed in this Parent/Student Handbook.

### ***Academic Eligibility Policy***

An invitation is made to all students who meet eligibility requirements to try out for the WRLHS teams. To be eligible to participate in an interscholastic competition a student must conform to the WIAA rules and regulations which are listed below.

- A. If a student is passing all his or her classes, at the time of the grading period, he or she will be eligible for co-curricular participation. The two periods for grading shall be the mid-quarter report and the end-of-quarter report.
- B. A student must meet school and Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requirements defining a full-time student and have received no failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent grade-reporting period and maintain a GPA of at least 2.0. A senior who has acquired all necessary credits toward graduation is not exempt from this rule.
  1. A student who becomes academically ineligible may regain eligibility on the 16<sup>th</sup> scheduled school day by meeting the academic standard following a period of ten scheduled school days and nights of ineligibility.

### **Academic Eligibility Policy (continued)**

2. A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes are made up within ten scheduled school days after a grade-reporting period. A student may erase ineligibility status following the last grade-reporting period of the school year through summer school courses (including correspondence courses) at the same or some other school, provided the course(s) made up are equivalent to the one(s) that caused the ineligibility. Note: This section does not apply to summer baseball participants who are governed under 7 b. below.
3. A student may erase ineligibility status related to the last grade-reporting period through summer school courses (including correspondence courses) at the same or some other school, provided that the student successfully completes not less than the same number of courses which caused ineligibility.
4. A student who is ineligible for a minimum of ten scheduled school days, under the provisions of this Section, may not return to competition until the school day following the 10-day ineligibility period.
5. A student who is enrolled in some courses in a university/college or technical college or some similar institution:
  - a. Must be in physical attendance (in his or her school) at least one course each day.
  - b. Must receive high school credit that meets the academic standard or have a notation made on his or her school transcript that he or she successfully met the equivalent of the academic standard between the two schools involved.
6. A student who is enrolled in any state-approved Exceptional Educational Needs (EEN) program and receives no usual grades for such courses may be eligible if he or she is making satisfactory progress in his or her total school program as indicated by his or her Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
7. The ineligibility status described in the introduction to this Section (A) will be adjusted as follows for students in fall sports in which the date of the earliest allowed competition is before the first-day students are in class and for students in summer baseball:
  - a. Fall Sports – The minimum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of (1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date earliest allowed competition in a sport or (2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction).
8. WRLHS may use a predetermined date other than the last day of a grade-reporting period to calculate eligibility, provided (a) all other provisions of this Section (A) are followed and (b) the procedure developed is the same for all students, all grade-reporting periods, and all sports.

### **Athletic Rules and Information**

- A. The student-athlete is responsible for all equipment and any uniform issued to him/her. Any equipment or uniform part lost, stolen, destroyed, or damaged through his or her own negligence must be paid for. Uniforms are not to be worn as everyday clothing.
- B. Students who desire to participate in more than one activity during a specific competition season must request permission to do so from the Administrator.
- C. Coaches may establish and enforce rules for his or her team regarding grooming, suitable rest, diet, conduct, etc. No rule may be contrary to the WRLHS Athletic Code. All rules must be distributed in writing to both athletes and parents.
- D. When the school provides transportation, the student-athlete is expected to use it both to and from the event. Permission to go home with PARENTS or other designated ADULTS will be granted only if there is a written request made by the parent directly to the responsible coach.
- E. In accordance with W.I.A.A. regulations, athletes may not participate in non-school competitions during the school season, in the same respective sport. This includes non-school games as well as “gimmicks” such as reduced numbers competition (3-on-3 basketball, 6 player soccer, etc.), specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick), fun runs, etc.
- F. Amateur Status – A student may not accept any cash or merchandise awards for achievement in athletics. They may receive an award which is symbolic in nature that has no intrinsic value.
- G. Lettering criteria differ for each sport and will be communicated to the team by each coach. Copies of the lettering criteria for all sports can be acquired upon request. The Athletic Director will help with the wording of these criteria.

### **Athletic Code Violations--Tobacco, Alcohol, Vaping, and other Controlled Substances**

It is our expectation that student-athletes will exercise good judgment and abstain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, vaping, and/or any controlled substance including “look-alikes.” If it is determined that a student-athlete has used tobacco, **vaping products**, and/or any illegal drug including alcohol, he or she shall be subject to the following penalties:

Any student who voluntarily turns himself or herself in for the FIRST violation of this code shall have the penalty reduced by 50% of the original amount specified.

- A. First offense - The athlete is suspended for 25% of the number of allotted games by the WIAA of the sport in which he or she is currently participating, or for the remainder of the season should less than 25% remain. The suspension shall begin when guilt has been verified by the school. Should the athlete be currently inactive, he or she will be suspended for the first 25% of his or her next sport. Suspended spring athletes may not begin a summer sports season until the spring suspension is concluded. Before a suspended athlete can join or rejoin his or her team, a meeting with the coach, player, and the player's parents must be held. Furthermore, in the case of alcohol or drug use, an assessment may be required for reinstatement. In the case of tobacco, a discontinuance program may be required.
- B. A second offense will result in an immediate suspension for the remainder of the season in which the athlete is currently participating or the season of the next sport in which he or she anticipated participating if he or she is currently inactive. In the case of alcohol or drug use, the athlete shall undergo a mandatory assessment and shall fulfill any recommended treatment in order to participate in athletics at WRLHS again. In the case of tobacco use, the student must complete a recognized discontinuance program or produce a letter from a physician that there is reason to believe that tobacco use has ceased before further participation at WRLHS is permitted. Once the above requirements have been fulfilled, the athlete may return to athletic participation during his or her next athletic season.
- C. A third offense will result in permanent suspension from participation while a student at WRLHS.
- D. A fourth offense will result in permanent suspension from athletics for the student's high school career.

### ***General Principles***

- A. No student may perform while serving a curricular or co-curricular suspension. Practice is allowed.
- B. Violations of the athletic code are cumulative during the athlete's career.
- C. Any suspension which results in a student missing a WIAA tournament contest results in that athlete being ineligible for the remainder of the WIAA tournament series in that sport.
- D. All costs incurred for treatments and chemical assessments are the responsibility of the student and his or her parents.
- E. Assessment and treatment centers must meet the approval of the Athletic Director and Administrator.
- F. All results of assessments will be kept in strictest confidence.
- G. All rules are in effect year-round – this INCLUDES SUMMERS.
- H. Parents will be involved in the process as soon as any violation is verified.
- I. It is the responsibility of the student to remove himself or herself from suspicion by avoiding situations where tobacco, vaping, controlled substances (including "look-alikes"), and alcohol are present.
- J. Neither parents nor adults' attendance at a scene where violations are occurring nor parental or adult permission or encouragement to break rules is grounds for disobeying these rules.
- K. Any violation or situation that is not specifically addressed in the Parent/Student Handbook will be evaluated on an individual basis by the Athletic Director and Administrator. Any ruling may be appealed through the established appeal process. Discipline may include but is not limited to community service.

### ***Appeal Process***

Should the student and/or his or her parents wish to appeal the penalty, they shall meet with the Athletic Director to set up a meeting. The following will be present at the appeal hearing: Athletic Director, Coach, (or advisor of the co-curricular activity), Administrator, the athlete, and his or her parents. The student will not be eligible during the appeal process. Rulings on the appeal are the responsibility of the Administrator. If the penalty is upheld, the student and his or her parents may bring their appeal to the Board of Directors at their next scheduled meeting. The Board of Directors' decision shall be final.

### ***Wolf River Lutheran High School Athletic Department—Parent/Athlete/Coach Expectations***

Parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's expectations, we are better able to accept the actions of both parties and provide greater benefits to the student/athlete. When a student becomes involved in an athletic program, parents and coaches have a right to understand what EXPECTATIONS are going to be placed on the athlete and on each other. This begins with clear communication from the athlete, parent, coach, and the athletic department.

### ***Communications That Parents/Athletes Should Expect from the Coaches***

- A. The coaches will have a face-to-face meeting with parents and student-athletes prior to the first practice of the sport.
- B. The expectations the coaches have for their child and all team members will be presented in writing to the parents and athletes.
- C. Location and time of all practices.
- D. If there are evening or weekend practices, coaches should list the starting time and length of practices.

- E. If there is more than one practice per day, list how many, time, and length of practices.
- F. If there are changes in practice times, give this information to the athletes, parents, and administration in a timely fashion. Athletes must be excused from a changed practice time if requested by the parent/guardian.
- G. Advise the athlete and the parents of the estimated arrival time (ETA) when returning from an away game/meet. At no time should a student be left alone in the building or on school premises after practice or returning from an away game.
- H. Communicate to the athlete and parent required fees, special fees, special equipment needs, game day dress, and off-season opportunities.
- I. A list of team rules and expectations that the coach has established beyond the Parent/Student Handbook.
- J. A list indicating the lettering requirements for your program.
- K. Coaches are expected to model good sportsmanship, use appropriate language, promote a healthy practice and game environment, and teach proper safety techniques.
- L. Coaches will have well-planned practices.

***Expectations/Communications Coaches Should Expect from the Athlete and Parents***

- A. Parents and athletes are to notify the coaching staff about any schedule conflicts that may occur, well in advance prior to the season. (vacations, driver's tests, etc.)
- B. Parents should notify coaches about special concerns they may have regarding coaching expectations.
- C. Athletes and Parents are expected to support the Parent/Student Handbook year-round and all team rules established by the coaching staff.
- D. If the athlete has a concern, the athlete needs to discuss this concern with the coach or coaching staff. Parents are expected to encourage their son/daughter to speak with the coach or coaching staff about their concerns. This follows our School's Grievance Policy.
- E. Athletes and parents are expected to support all team members and the coaching staff.
- F. Parents need to give positive support at games for their son/daughter, teammates, and the coaching staff.
- G. Athletes and parents are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship and use appropriate language at games and practices.
- H. All athletes are expected to have a great work ethic at practice and in games.
- I. **Athletes who quit during a season will not be allowed to return during that season. If that athlete wishes to return to the sport during a subsequent season, a meeting will be held with the athlete, the athlete's parents/guardian, coach and athletic director. (NEW)**

***Coaches, Assistant Coaches & Advisors***

Wolf River Lutheran High School seeks to employ coaches, assistant coaches and activity advisors that uphold and promote the mission, values, philosophies, and teachings of WRLHS. Coaches and advisors who are not part of the WRLHS faculty (including volunteers) yet work directly with students must provide personal information to the school, be interviewed by the Principal, complete background checks, and sign a statement of commitment that they will perform their duties to the best of their ability. All coaches and assistant coaches must be certified as may be required by the WIAA and must be approved by the Board of Directors. Coaches are directly supervised by the Administrator and assistant coaches are supervised by the head coach of that sport and by the Administrator.

***Limits on Athletic Practices & Sporting Activity Gatherings***

Wolf River Lutheran High recognizes the need to limit activities so that students can spend time with family, in worship, completing academic responsibilities, and getting enough sleep. Therefore, the following guidelines have been established. There will be exceptions to these limits, but they must be approved by the Administrator.

- No Lutheran High sporting activity shall gather, compete, practice, or rehearse on Sundays. (with the exceptions of open gyms, bowling, or trap shooting)
- No Lutheran High sporting activity shall gather, compete, practice, or rehearse before 7:30 a.m. on any day.
- No Lutheran High sporting activity shall gather, compete, practice, or rehearse after 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. The exception being the Trap Club.
- No Lutheran High activity shall gather, compete, practice, or rehearse on a day in which school has been closed or dismissed early due to inclement weather.
- The purpose of the Open Gym is for fun, socialization, and exercise. It should not be used to hold a sports practice.

### ***Supervision***

All WRLHS extra-curricular activities not held on the WRLHS campus should be held in a public place. All coaches and advisors are to provide enough supervision for such activities. If for any reason such activities are held in the home of a WRLHS faculty or staff member or student, two adults (the coach or advisor and one other adult, not including spouses) must be present for the entire duration of the activity – from the arrival of the first student until the departure of the last student.

### ***Transportation***

Coaches will coordinate with the athletic directors or office to secure transportation for all competitions or events. Student participants will be transported by parents/guardians of participants, coaches or advisors, or hired or secured bus transportation. A student may only drive to a competition or event with the approval of the coach or advisor AND Administrator (this is only approved on occasions when a student will be required to leave the event at a time other than the other participants or if the route of travel is conducive to convenient travel to the student's home after the competition or event). A student will only be allowed to drive if his or her parent or guardian has granted such approval. When providing transportation, coaches and advisors are encouraged to have more than one student or person with them in the vehicle.

Parents who have permission to transport a student must use the approved Travel Release form. (8/10/2021)

For practices or meetings, student participants may drive if approved by the coach or advisor AND the student's parents. Students may only ride with other students if both the parent of the driver and the passenger have granted such permission expressed specifically through written or verbal approval to the coach or advisor or through the regular transportation of such students together to and from school. In other words, if Student A rides to school every day with Student B driving, then Student A may also ride with Student B to practice or meeting.

Coaches and advisors are responsible for providing locations for each activity when students or parents are driving. When possible, transportation in cars should be completed through a "convoy."

Coaches and advisors may allow students to meet at the site of the activity when the activity occurs at a time in which the students are not previously gathered at WRLHS. For example, trap participants could meet at a range at which they are competing for a Sunday evening event, especially when meeting first at WRLHS requires unnecessary travel. (8/10/2021)

### ***Uniforms and Equipment***

Wolf River Lutheran High School athletic equipment is to be worn or used for practice sessions and athletic contests only, or as directed by the coach for that sport. Athletes are financially responsible for any athletic equipment/uniform issued to them. All equipment is to be turned in promptly to the coach at the end of each season. Any other equipment used for extra-curricular activities is the responsibility of the student and should be used only for that activity. Students are expected to use this equipment in a proper manner, reflecting the activity at hand. Certain sports or activities require the student/parent to purchase all or part of the uniform. Parent-purchased uniforms will belong to the student. The cost of this uniform will be communicated to the students and parents by the coach or advisor.

Wolf River Lutheran High School follows W.I.A.A rules and regulations but reserves the right to field a team outside of W.I.A.A Policies.

### ***Awards & Lettering Criteria***

- a. Letter Winners and Awards Criteria (based on coaches expectations)
  - i. First-time letter winner receives:
    1. Cloth Letter
    2. Sport-specific pin
    3. Bar pin
  - ii. All subsequent letter winners receive:
    1. Bar pin
  - iii. Captain(s) award winner receives:
    1. Star pin
  - iv. MVP and MIP award winners receive:
    1. MVP/MIP pins



# WOLF RIVER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

## Athletic Handbook

2023 -2024

### AGREEMENT FORM

We will read or have read and discussed with our child the Athletic Handbook and fully understand that these are the rules and regulations of Wolf River Lutheran High School. We affirm that we are expected to comply with these rules and regulations.

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name)

*\*HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SIGNATURE MANDATORY*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student