



FOUNDERS

Classical Academy®

Athletic Handbook 2023-2024

2400 North Josey Lane

Carrollton, TX 75006

Phone Number: 972-245-2900

Statement of Purpose: Being a part of the FCA Carrollton Athletic program is an honor and special privilege. Athletes and spirit groups exist to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, wholesome enthusiastic school spirit and are first and foremost representatives of the school. Athletes should exemplify both individual and group behavior suitable to their position and in accordance with Responsive Education's Code of Conduct. Athletes are expected to be physically and mentally skilled. Off the field, they are to enthusiastically support all athletic teams through advertisement, personal attitude and attendance.

Headmaster- Kalia Crowell

Athletic Director- Mark Burger

DEFINITION/ELIGIBILITY/COMMITMENT DEFINITION:

The rules and procedures outlined in this handbook are in effect from the time the student is selected to the athletic program until the next tryout date. These rules apply to all athletes in the athletic program equally. Because of TEA rules, the academic policies are in effect for a school year.

ELIGIBILITY-TRYOUT:

A student is eligible to try out for athletics if either of the two conditions are met: At the time of the tryout, the student is enrolled at Founders Classical Academy Carrollton or is registered to attend the campus for the next school year. *To be eligible for tryouts, students must have passed all subjects the preceding grading period and have a current doctor's physical report.

COMMITMENT:

Student Athletes selected to be a member of an athletic team are expected to make a commitment to the activity for the full season. Any athlete who voluntarily quits the squad before the end of the season without the approval of the Headmaster and coach will not be allowed to try out for the next year without approval from the coach. If you voluntarily resign from the team, fees will not be refundable.

SELECTION & TRYOUT GUIDELINES SELECTION:

The procedures for selection are based on the athletic Coaches Policies from the guidelines in this handbook. The coach's decision for squad selection is final. Parents will not be allowed in the building during any phase of the tryouts. Coaches will be evaluating every student on their ability with each sport the student is trying out for.

TRYOUT GUIDELINES:

The coaches will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of a packet of information to be made available to all candidates. This information will include specific tryout dates, times, attire, and procedures. Candidates and parents must sign a form stating that they understand and will comply with all information in the packet before the student is allowed to participate in the tryout process. FCA Carrollton athletes shall be selected by an evaluation made by the coaches during a tryout. Students wishing to try out for an athletic team must fill out all required paperwork with the team coach by the first day of the tryout before tryout begins. Coaches will be evaluating every student on their ability with each sport the student is trying out for

A physical exam or proof of prior exam is required before a student is allowed to participate in try-outs. A notarized parental permission form is also required. These must be completed before any athlete can participate in any activity. Each student trying out must attend the evaluations and tryout to be considered for the team.

TEAM DYNAMICS

The decision to combine squads or move team members up can be done at the discretion of the coaches based on numbers and team needs at any time; this will override the grade level per team.

Varsity: - Number will be determined by the coaches evaluations at tryouts

Junior Varsity: - Number will be determined by the coaches evaluations at tryouts

Middle School: - Number will be determined by the coaches evaluations at tryouts.

Managers: - Can be 6-8th Graders, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior or Senior, male or female.

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NOTIFICATION & PARENT REQUEST FOR EVALUATION RESULTS. NOTIFICATION:

All results will be posted on Parent Square on the date designated by the coaches. Parents may request by email what was witnessed by the coaches in the evaluation process that determined the results. By law, all other student evaluations are protected and cannot be shared with anyone except the coach, headmaster's, and athletic director.

PARENT/SCHOOL/COACH COMMUNICATION

Parents have the right to know, and understand the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know if parents have a concern; a parent should discuss concerns with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Section A -

Communication of the Parent Communication coaches should expect from parents:

1. Concerns regarding a son/daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
2. Specific concerns with regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Notification of any prior schedule conflicts. • Mental and physical treatment of a student.
4. Improvements on which an athlete may need to focus.
5. Student behavior/Safety
6. Concerns not appropriate for discussion with a coach:
7. Any situation that deals with other student athletes or squad members.

Section B –

Communication of the Coach Communication parents should expect from their student's coach:

1. Requirements and/or feedback the coach has for his/her student and the squad.
2. Locations and times of practices and games.
3. Requirements of fees, special equipment, uniforms, team rules, travel arrangements and offseason expectations.
4. Procedures in the event his/her student becomes injured during a performance or practice.

Section C – Appropriate Communication Between Parent, School and Coach There are situations that may require a conference to promote resolution to the issue. If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment: Outline and define objectives for a meeting and stick to discussing facts only.
2. Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or performance. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.
3. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, a parent or guardian should follow the following chain of command: (You cannot contact the following if you have not first met with the coach directly) • Assistant Headmaster • Headmaster • Athletic Director
4. As a parent you are not the coach during practice or during a game.

ELIGIBILITY

Academic eligibility begins each school calendar year (August) as is the case with UIL sanctioned activities. A student whose recorded grade average in any course is lower than a 70 at the end of a UIL eligibility period shall be suspended from competitions. A suspension continues for at least three weeks and is not removed during the school year until the student is passing all subjects taken.. Athletes will continue to attend classes, all practices, fundraisers and community service. Any athlete that becomes ineligible will not be allowed to perform, travel with the team, or wear his/her uniform for any reason for the term of ineligibility without the coaches approval. The Head Coach will determine if the athlete is required to attend an event without participation. Per the TEA/UIL Eligibility Calendar High School Side by Side, an athlete who is ineligible at a Nine Week grading period and two subsequent grading periods in the same or different subjects, will be removed from the team at the next grading period.

The participant will only be allowed to try out the following year with the approval of the campus coach.

GENERAL CONDUCT RULES & EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT (ECOC)

GENERAL CONDUCT RULES: Athletes are expected to behave in a manner that is becoming to the individual, as well as to the organization they represent. They should be aware that in or out of uniform they are representatives of the team and the high school they attend and should act accordingly. Any athlete removed from his/her team for disciplinary reasons during the current season will not be eligible to participate in the next tryout without approval from the coach. Areas to be reviewed will include but not be limited to a review of the reason(s) for removal and student records since removal (academic grades, discipline records, attitude, etc.) Proper manners should be used at all times to address adults. Mutual respect and politeness toward members within the team are basic elements that contribute to the total success of the team. Students are expected to be leaders.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION:

First Offense – Benched for next event.

Second Offense – Benched for next event and placed on probation for the duration of the year.

Third Offense – Removal from team.

Students assigned to in-school suspension may not perform, wear the team uniform, or practice with the team while serving in-school suspension. However, students benched for disciplinary reasons will be required to attend the event, and stand in the designated area by the coaches. Anyone assigned out of school suspension will be subject to the following actions:

OUT-OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION:

First Offense – Benched for next two events, Principal/Coach Review, Placed on probation for the duration of school year. Possible dismissal.

Second Offense – Removal from squad.

Any member failing to abide by published school rules relating to conduct, use of drugs, alcoholic beverages, or other illegal activities will be subject to review by the coach and principal. Dismissal from the group may result from that review. Any drug/alcohol violations will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct at school or for any school sponsored activities. The Extracurricular Code of Conduct will be implemented if not at school or school sponsored activities. Should any eligibility situation not be covered by the above policy, the UIL eligibility standards will apply. Any member who is expelled or placed in the Alternate Education Program will be removed from the team for the remainder of the school year. The participant will only be allowed to try out the following year with the approval of the campus coach and campus administration.

BEHAVIOR CONTRACT:

Athletes are expected to demonstrate exemplary character at all times. At practice, performances, and all related events, athletes are expected to have a positive attitude, work hard, be willing to learn new things and improve skills, encourage and help teammates, and show respect for each other, coaches, and other staff. Athletes who do not meet these expectations will be counseled by the coach about needed improvement and parents will be notified. If the athlete continues to fail to meet these expectations, he/she will be required to meet with a coach and campus administrator and sign a behavior contract. Parents will be notified. Any failure to meet expectations after this point may result in removal from the team.

The Coaches have the right to discipline for poor attitude/behavior with conditioning, benchings or removal at any time.

EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT (ECOC):

An extracurricular code of conduct has been developed and approved by the school administration. The ECOC must be signed by all athletes as part of the tryout paperwork. The extracurricular code of conduct goes into effect from tryouts of the current year until tryouts of the upcoming year. Any incidents that occur after school hours or on the weekend will be disciplined in accordance with the extracurricular code of conduct, which will supersede the athletic constitution during these times. This does not include times that an athletic member is participating at a school sponsored event or activity, during which times the campus code of conduct and athletic constitution will be enforced. Athletic participation takes precedence over any other club, organization, or outside activity.

DISCIPLINE SYSTEM ATTENDANCE/ABSENCE GUIDELINES:

1. Athletes will attend all in/out of school practices and required events. Any absence must be cleared by the Coach prior to the practice/event.

EXCUSED:

Illness with a doctor's note/school nurse (unless for emergency reasons, the athlete should make every effort to schedule all medical and dental appointments around practice and events), death in the family, absences approved by coach/principal. Students will have one week from the absence to provide a doctor's note in order to be excused.

UNEXCUSED: Work/vacation, personal appointments and any other absence not approved by the coaches. (Excused absences w/o prior notice will be benched for ½ game; exception:; death in the family) Unexcused: Benched one (1) game.

2. Athletes cannot miss the last practice before an event (Benched one (1) event). 3. Athletes will attend all summer practices (Benched one (1) game per miss). 4. Injuries: If an injury occurs that keeps the student out of two practices, a note from the student's parent or doctor stating the reason will be required. If the injury restricts the student from three or more practices, a doctor's note will be required. This note should state the nature of the injury, the specific length of time of the restriction, the specific task the student cannot perform, and any special instructions. Lack of participation will be categorized as missing practice if there is no note.

5. Injured athletes will attend all athletic events. *If a team member is absent, it is their responsibility to find out what was covered and learn any new plays that were missed. You must call or email the coach ahead of time to let them know of any absence during the athletic period or after school events. An unexcused or excused absence without prior approval could result in being moved to a different position in a routine, game line up or performance. A team member may also be moved if there is an absence (excused or unexcused) on a day when a play is being worked. A team member that is absent on the day that a paid trainer is either in the class period or working with the team after school MUST give prior notice since this is considered a scheduled team practice.

Each team member is allowed to use up to 3 absences for situations beyond their control with at least a week's prior notice to the coach for approval. The coach will decide if the absence is an approved reason. College visits and other school-approved visits must be approved by the coach ahead of time if missing class, events or practice. Athletics should be your first priority after academics. All other school activities will not be approved without at least a week prior approval from the coach. All tutorials and make up work should be scheduled to the best of your ability around the athletic schedule. The coaches do not have to excuse them from practice/events for this reason.

IN SCHOOL MINOR VIOLATIONS:

These items will be considered minor violations during the athletic period: dress out, tardies, jewelry/spacers, gum, failure to bring binder, etc. All of these minor violations will result in immediate conditioning designated by the coaches. If the conditioning is not started the first time asked, additional conditioning will be added. If it is not started the second time asked, another additional amount of conditioning will be added. If a coach has to ask a third time, then it will result in an office referral. If a coach misses a minor violation at the start of class and then notices it later, the squad member will be asked to run double for not being upfront with the violation on their own.

OUT OF SCHOOL MINOR VIOLATIONS:

These items will be considered minor violations and will be dealt with in the following manner: dress out/full uniform, tardies, jewelry/spacers, gum, failure to bring supplies needed (binder, poms, megaphones, etc.), not fulfilling committee meeting duties, etc. Three minor violations will result in a half game benching.

UNEXCUSED TARDIES:

An unexcused tardy that is under 10 minutes will result in a minor violation, unexcused tardies from 10:01-19 minutes will result in a half game benching and unexcused tardies that are 20+ minutes will result in a full game benching and will be considered an unexcused absence.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONTRACT:

All team members chosen for the FCAC athletic program are required to sign the social media contract. Anyone that is found not following this contract can be subject to immediate dismissal or game benchings. The Coach will decide the consequence, depending on the severity of the contract violation.

UNIFORM GUIDELINES

ATHLETES WILL NOT: *Wear uniform to a non-athletic function (Eating after a game may be approved by the Coach as an exception to the guideline) *Lend out uniforms, warm-ups, practice clothes etc. to someone who is not on the team. *Cut fabric without prior approval from the Coach for uniform alterations.

1. Uniforms will be turned in by the scheduled date.
2. Athletes are responsible for damage to or loss of any part of a uniform Replacement of uniform or repair cost \$150.
3. Uniforms are expected to be washed after each use during the season; it is unacceptable to wear dirty uniforms. Wash uniforms inside out and then hang to dry. DO NOT dry clean, this ruins the emblems.
4. Uniforms not turned in clean at the end of the season will be charged a cleaning fee- \$75

SAFETY GUIDELINES

1. Athletic teams should be placed under the direction of a knowledgeable coach.
2. The team coach or other knowledgeable designated school employee will be in attendance at all practices, games, functions.
3. If possible, all practice sessions should be held in a location suitable for the activities
4. Warm-up and stretching should precede all practice sessions and games.
5. If possible, all athletic teams should develop a conditioning and strength-building program.
6. Coaches must recognize the entire team's particular ability level and adjust the team's activity accordingly.

TRANSPORTATION: Students/Parents are responsible for transportation to and from all athletic events.

BOOSTER CLUBS/PARENTS BOOSTER CLUBS.

Booster clubs are optional, but may be allowed at the discretion of the Headmaster. Booster clubs are formed by school patrons to help enrich an organization's participation in extracurricular activities. This should be their primary focus. Fundraising activities should support the educational goals of the school and cheerleading squad, but they should not exploit students. Booster clubs should have a board of directors made of at least a President, Vice President and Treasurer. There should be at least two signatories on booster club checks. A detailed list of income and expenditures should be published by the Treasurer for the membership on a monthly basis. Athletes shall not be required to pay dues to a booster club. Athletes shall not be required to raise money if a parent prefers to pay the students' cost. Certain fundraising activities of the booster club may result in a donation to the school athletic activity fund.

BEHAVIOR:

Relatives and friends should understand that the athletes have responsibilities during games and practices. Therefore, they may only take photos or talk to athletes after their responsibilities are completed. Parents should remember that athletics are team sports, suspending athletic activities as a punishment will punish the entire team and will not be excused. Parents are expected to help out with events/activities as needed by the program; it is not acceptable to expect other parents to complete all required duties. All parents are expected to support the program as equally as possible and are required to help out with at least one team fundraiser.

MONIES COLLECTED

All funds for sports are collected and posted by the Office Manager only.

ADDITIONAL COSTS: A listing of additional costs can be obtained from the athletic coach and will be included in the campus tryout packet. This will include additional apparel needed as the athletic year continues.



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Carrollton, TX 75006

Phone Number: 972-245-2900

Parent signature _____ Date: _____

Student signature _____ Date: _____

Please sign and return to the Coach or Athletic Director

Thank you

Mark H. Burger

Director of Student Programs

Founders Classical Academy Carrollton

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