



**Athletic Handbook  
2008-2009**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT	1
ATHLETIC THEME VERSES	1
GOAL OF ATHLETICS AT SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	1
SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RULES AND POLICIES	1
EFFECTIVE PARENT/COACH/PLAYER RELATIONS AT SCS	1
DESCRIPTION OF THE SCS ATHLETIC PROGRAM	2
ELIGIBILITY AND INELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	3
STANDARD CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY .....	3
STANDARD CRITERIA FOR INELIGIBILITY .....	3
ATHLETICS.....	3
BEHAVIOR	4
PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS	5
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	5
TRIPS/ATTIRE/SPECIAL LUNCHES	5
PLAYING TIME POLICY	6
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE	6
SCHSL AND SCS RULES CONCERNING TECHNICAL FOULS/CAUTIONS/EJECTIONS	7
PRACTICE AND GAME PARTICIPATION	7
SCHEDULES	8
ATHLETIC SPECTATOR GUIDELINES	8
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEES	8
SELECTION OF TEAMS/SQUADS	8
AWARDS/POST SEASON BANQUETS	9
STUDENT INSURANCE	9
SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC HOTLINES	11

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission and purpose of the Southside Christian School Athletic Department to serve as partners with parents in providing a positive athletic experience for students consistent with biblical truth, using athletic involvement as a tool to teach lessons for life.

### ATHLETIC THEME VERSES

1 Corinthians 6:20 "For you were bought at a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." (NIV)

1 Corinthians 10:31 "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (NIV)

Revelation 14:7 "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heavens and earth, the sea and springs of water." (NIV)

### GOAL OF ATHLETICS AT SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1. The goal of athletics at Southside Christian School is to build championship programs that are centered on glorifying God. "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." (Proverbs 16:3)
2. Involve the student body, parents, faculty and staff in developing school unity and spirit.
3. Maintain a clear Christian testimony to opposing players, fans and officials.
4. Players, parents and fans are asked to show up at contests with a winning attitude. This includes:
  - a. An expectation of winning (bring a positive winning attitude)
  - b. An expectation of honoring God
  - c. An expectation of giving the players and coaches full support
  - d. An expectation of respecting the officials and opponents

### SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RULES AND POLICIES

1. Athletes will respect and abide by all SCS rules and policies as stated in the *Student and Family Handbook*.
2. Participating in athletics is a privilege and athletes will be held to high standards for behavior.
3. SCS is a member of the South Carolina High School League. Therefore, all athletes, parents and coaches are required to abide by SCHSL rules and policies.

### EFFECTIVE PARENT/COACH/PLAYER RELATIONS AT SCS

1. Love, respect, encourage and pray for one another.
2. Protocol for parents with concerns or questions.
  - a. Meeting with head coach.
    - Proper deference should be shown toward the coach by scheduling an appointment to discuss concerns in private.
  - b. Meeting with head coach and athletic director.
    - The athletic office will not entertain most concerns unless they have first gone to the head coach.

3. Parents are expected to be supportive of the coaches and to refrain from sharing negative opinions with others. Displays of anger toward coaches, officials or other teams is not acceptable (James 1:19)
4. Players and parents are encouraged to contact the Athletic Chaplain for assistance with spiritual and relational matters.
5. Each coach will have the full responsibility and authority to determine playing time.
6. Parents are required to attend a pre-season meeting for each team in which their child participates. Team rules will be discussed, along with sizing and ordering of additional athletic apparel.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SCS ATHLETIC PROGRAM

1. Affiliation
  - a. Southside Christian School is currently competing in the South Carolina High School League, Region II-A and will abide by all rules and decisions set forth by the League.
  - b. The Athletic Department will only enter a hardship appeal for a transferring student when there are extreme extenuating circumstances that required the student to transfer and it can be shown that it was not for athletic reasons. More information can be found on the South Carolina High School League website.
2. Programs Offered
  - a. Junior Varsity that may include grades 7-10
    - Football (7-9), Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Softball and Cheerleading
  - b. Varsity Programs that include grades 9-12
    - Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, and Cheerleading
  - c. Varsity Programs that include grades 7-12
    - Cross Country, Boy's Golf, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field
3. Uniforms
  - a. Uniforms are to be properly maintained. Any damage to or loss of uniforms will be the responsibility of the athlete.
  - b. Clean uniforms are to be turned in to the head coach within one week of the conclusion of the season. The uniforms are considered school property and cannot be kept. If a uniform is not turned in, the full replacement cost of a new uniform will be charged to the student's school account.
  - c. Uniforms are not to be turned in to the Athletic Department.
  - d. Uniforms must be turned in before an athlete is allowed to participate in another sport season.
  - e. Uniforms may only be worn for athletic contests.
4. Locker room conduct
  - a. Locker rooms are to be left clean after each practice.
  - b. Horseplay is not allowed in the locker rooms at any time.
  - c. All personal items are the responsibility of the individual athlete. SCS is not responsible for valuables left in the locker room.

## ELIGIBILITY AND INELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### STANDARD CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

- A student must, at the time of tryouts and selection, meet all requirements for the extracurricular event in question. Prospective students must be accepted prior to attending

tryouts.

- The minimum academic standard for all extracurricular eligibility, unless stated otherwise, is at least a 77% average with no classes below 70%. Eligibility is based on the most recent nine-week report card. Students who have an F on a semester average are also ineligible.
- During the current or previous semester, students may not have received two or more days of suspension or four or more detentions.
- During the current or previous semester, students may not have been absent five or more days from class or school.
- This standard for eligibility applies to honor societies, quiz teams, sports participation, fine arts participation and class officers.
- The student's school account must be both current and in good standing.

#### STANDARD CRITERIA FOR INELIGIBILITY

- A student who is participating in an extracurricular activity loses the privilege of continuing in that activity if the following stated requirements apply:
- A drop in grades that includes not earning a 77% overall average or having earned a 69% average or below in any class.
- A two-day suspension or a second one-day suspension.
- A third detention resulting in removal from NHS/NJHS, Beta Club, student council or a class office.
- A sixth detention resulting in forfeiture of athletic or fine arts extracurricular participation.

Athletes (including cheerleaders) are considered eligible based on the standard criteria at the time the teams are trying out for selection. SCS has stricter eligibility criteria than the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL). For more information on the SCHSL criteria, please see number 8 below. Students become ineligible based on standard criteria for ineligibility.

Reinstatement: A student who is ruled ineligible due to report card grades, either quarter or semester, may become eligible at the end of the next favorable official progress report period. The standard for reinstatement is at least an overall 77% average, no classes below 70%, and the approval of the coach. Both the principal and the athletic director will certify eligibility for reinstatement. If a student is ineligible by SCHSL criteria, reinstatement may not be relevant until the next favorable report period.

A student in grades 7-8, ruled ineligible due to poor school attendance, may be reinstated at the end of one nine-week period if absences from school during that period have not exceeded two or more days. A student becomes ineligible based on standard criteria for ineligibility.

Additional considerations related to athletic eligibility:

1. Parents are expected to monitor their child's grades on a regular basis.
2. All students who are participating in a SCS sports program are required to inform their head coach(s) of any failing grades at the end of the most current nine-week grading period.
3. All ineligible athletes are encouraged to spend time with their teachers at the end of the school day in order to enhance their learning and aid in recovering their eligibility.
4. Any athlete that has been declared ineligible due to grades is expected to attend all practices with the team.

5. Any athlete that has been declared ineligible due to grades or behavior will not be able to appear in uniform, stand/sit with the team, or travel with the team to home or away contests/games.
6. Eligibility for fall sports will be determined by the previous fourth nine-week grade report.
7. The Athletic Department will notify athletes, parents, and head coaches concerning ineligibility rulings upon receiving nine week grade reports.
8. In order to have eligibility with the South Carolina High School League each semester, students must meet the following SCHSL guidelines to participate.
  - a. \*To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school. To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions:
    - (1) If the student met first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of four, ½ units during the first semester.
    - (2) If the student did not meet first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of five, ½ units during the first semester.
  - b. \*Credits earned in an approved summer school may apply for first semester eligibility. A maximum of two units per year may be used.
  - c. \*If a student is ineligible by SCHSL criteria he/she may not be reinstated until the next favorable semester report period.

#### BEHAVIOR

1. If the athletic director determines that an athlete is not demonstrating a positive overall attitude or receives input from teachers that a proper attitude is not being demonstrated in the classroom, the athlete may either be put on probation or dismissed from the team. A parental conference would precede any dismissal.
2. Hazing or harassment is illegal and will result in suspension from athletic participation.
3. Athletes that are caught urinating anywhere besides the bathrooms will be immediately removed from the athletic program for an amount of time to be determined by the athletic director.

#### PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

1. To participate in athletics at SCS, a copy of an official birth certificate must be on file with the Athletic Department. The official birth document must meet the following criteria:
  - a. It must be an original certified document.
  - b. It must be obtained from the state, county or city government in which the student was born.
  - c. It must include the given and surnames.
  - d. It must be legible and unaltered.
2. To participate in athletics at SCS, each parent and athlete must have a completed and signed *SCHSL Physical/Parent Consent Form* on file with the Athletic Department.
3. The *Athletic Participation Physical Form* must be properly completed before the first practice by a licensed doctor of medicine or a nurse practitioner in written collaboration with a licensed medical doctor or a certified physician's assistant in a written

collaboration with a licensed medical doctor. Athletic physicals must be dated on or after April 1 of the preceding athletic participating year.

4. Any athlete who has been restricted by a doctor from participation because of an illness or injury any time before or during the season must secure a doctor's release to be eligible to participate again on a team/squad at SCS.
5. Athletes may not participate in a practice or game for the next season in another sport until the season they are currently participating in is complete. Exceptions will be made for tryouts only.

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

1. All athletes are expected to abide by attendance requirements in the *Student and Family Handbook*.
2. All athletes should be in class the entire day on the day of a game or practice in order to participate. A student will be counted absent from first hour after 8:20 a.m. Exceptions may be granted to this policy if the absence was due to a doctor's appointment or was pre-arranged with the principal.
3. If an athlete is too sick to come to school, then he/she is too sick to practice or play. However, a doctor or dentist appointment is excusable on the day of a game or practice, as is any absence that was pre-arranged with the principal.
4. Any 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> grade athlete who misses physical education class due to an injury or illness will not be allowed to practice or play on that day.
5. Athletes returning late from a game will not be excused for any tardiness or from assignments or tests given the following day. Under certain circumstances, the principal may make exceptions to this policy.
6. Each athlete is responsible for assignments missed when athletic travel requires absence from a particular class. Athletes should check with teachers for assignments prior to away contests.

#### TRIPS/ATTIRE/SPECIAL LUNCHESES

1. Conduct
  - a. Athletes are representatives first of our Lord Jesus Christ, second of their parents and family, and third of SCS and the Athletic Department. This responsibility should not be taken lightly.
  - b. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves like ladies and gentlemen at all times.
  - c. Co-ed teams traveling to contests must have boys and girls sitting separately on the bus.
  - d. Team members will travel together on school vehicles to away contests. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by the athletic director.
  - e. Damage done to vehicles from horseplay or carelessness will be the financial responsibility of the individual(s) who caused the damage.
2. Dress
  - a. Coaches will determine proper attire for traveling to away contests.
  - b. Each team is allowed two approved jeans days per season. Approval can only be granted by the principal.
3. Travel
  - a. Athletes will not be allowed to ride with anyone other than parents unless a Student Travel Request Form has been completed and turned in. A copy of this form is attached at the end of this handbook.

- b. Athletes will not be allowed to ride with other SCS students or athletes to or from contests.
4. Team Lunches
  - a. Must be planned in advance with the head coach.
  - b. Must take place during school lunch period.

#### PLAYING TIME POLICY

1. Junior Varsity - the philosophy of this level is to increase each athlete's fundamentals, abilities and competitiveness. The emphasis is player development over winning.
2. Varsity - the coach will choose a starting team for each game and substitute players at the appropriate times, with an emphasis on winning and being successful.
3. Quitting - once a student has been selected to be on a team or squad, he/she will not be allowed to quit without a parental conference with the head coach, unless that athlete suffers from a serious injury or is seriously jeopardizing academic progress. If a student quits a sport, the student may not participate in another sport during that season or during the next sports season. The Athletic Department reserves the right to refuse participation in another sport if the reason for quitting is deemed inappropriate.

NOTE: Parents are expected to instruct and prepare their children for a competitive program at SCS. Success is not synonymous with playing time. Success is defined as contributing to the team with God-given abilities as needed.

#### SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

2. Athletes receiving a suspension from school will not be allowed to participate in an athletic activity that day.
3. Athletes receiving a suspension from school will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game. If a game is not scheduled on the day of the suspension, the athlete must sit out the next game. The athlete is not allowed to be in uniform or sit with the team.
4. Athletes receiving a one-day suspension from school between playing seasons will be ineligible to play in the first game of the next season.
5. A three-day suspension or a third one-day suspension will result in automatic loss of athletic participation for a probationary period to be determined by the athletic director and principal.
6. Use of any secured athletic facility without a coach present will result in an automatic one-day school suspension.
7. A player who is assigned a detention hall must inform his/her coach.
- 8.

## SCHSL AND SCS RULES CONCERNING TECHNICAL

### FOULS/CAUTIONS/EJECTIONS

1. Any athlete receiving a conduct technical foul in basketball, a caution in soccer (yellow card), a caution in volleyball (yellow card) or a verbal caution in baseball or softball will immediately be removed from the contest. Coaches determine if or when the athlete may return to the contest. Any basketball, volleyball, softball or baseball player receiving a caution or conduct technical in two consecutive contests will be removed from the contest and be suspended from the next scheduled contest. Any soccer player receiving yellow cards in consecutive contests for unsportsmanlike conduct or verbal responses will be removed from the contest and suspended from the next contest.
2. An athlete who is ejected for using personal abusive language, flagrantly or maliciously contacting another person, making obscene gestures to opponents or spectators, shall be ineligible for a minimum of the next contest to the maximum of one year depending on the seriousness of the violation. Any attempt to verbally abuse, make obscene gestures to, threaten or strike an official or member of opposing coaching staff, shall be considered a serious violation making the athlete ineligible for a minimum of the next two contests to the maximum of one year. Any action that warrants a maximum penalty will also require that the school be placed on immediate probation in that sport. The League Office will review any other action(s) that result in an ejection with the possibility of additional penalties.
3. Any athlete who leaves the bench area to become involved in a fracas will be disqualified from that game and will be subject to a minimum of a next game suspension depending on his or her involvement. A school whose athletes violate this bench policy will be subject to League discipline.
4. An athlete who is ejected for the second time in the same sport will have his or her athletic eligibility removed.

### PRACTICE AND GAME PARTICIPATION

1. Practices are important to each team's success and attendance is mandatory.
2. Players should not be absent from a practice or game without prior permission.
3. Players will not be excused from practices or games for outside jobs.
4. The individual coach will handle unexcused absences. Two unexcused absences may result in removal from the team.
5. Players will not be excused from SCS practices or games in order to attend tryouts, practices or games associated with outside athletic organizations. The commitment made to the SCS program has top priority.
6. The process for players desiring to participate on a varsity team will terminate the day of the first regular season practice. Exceptions will only be made for the following reasons: New student to the school or player finishing participation in another sport that overlaps with the new sports season.
7. Players who have plans that conflict with participation in a specific sport to the end of the final contest will not be allowed to participate in that sport. This includes all playoff, region and state contests.
8. No athlete will be allowed to participate in two sports during any season.

## SCHEDULES

1. At the beginning of each season, game schedules will be posted on the SCS web site. Schedule changes during the season will be updated on the web site.
2. A list of coaches and their contact information is on the website.
3. Directions to away sites are available on the SCS web site. Click on Athletics, then Team Schedules and follow the directions to view and print directions. Directions are obtained from Map Quest.
4. Each team will have a hotline number that players are expected to call regularly to keep updated on practice and other team-related details.

## ATHLETIC SPECTATOR GUIDELINES

1. Only those with official duties will be allowed on the field or court. All others are asked to remain in the spectator areas.
2. Please help in any way possible with cleanup after contests.
3. Always be courteous to the officials and referees. Do not approach an official at any time. Any contact with an official can result in ejection from the athletic contest and possibly bar the offending individual from being allowed to attend future contests.

## ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEES

1. A \$60 participation fee per season will be charged to each athlete's school account. The participation fee for football is \$110. One 4x5 team picture and two individual 4x5 pictures are included in the participation fee. Individual picture buttons are available but must be ordered.

## SELECTION OF TEAMS/SQUADS

1. Teams (all levels)
  - a. Teams that have tryouts are selected by the coaching staff for each sport at the beginning of each season.
  - b. After a set tryout period, a selection of players is made. The team hotline will be revised to announce the selections.
  - c. Before an athlete is cut from the team, the decision is thoroughly discussed by the judges and/or coaches involved. They will strive to make the best choices they can with the wisdom God has granted them. Teams will be announced by either: (1) individual team hotline, (2) personal letter or (3) direct communication.
  - d. Cheerleading Squads
    - a. Tryout dates for varsity cheerleading will be announced in the spring.
    - b. Selections are made by the varsity coaching staff.
    - c. Young ladies are selected based on their cheering ability, appearance, enthusiasm, and ability to work with a team after two to three days of clinic and a tryout session with the judges.
    - d. Candidates must meet the academic qualifications listed in the Athletic Handbook.
    - e. Philosophy of cheerleading
      - (1) Our purpose of cheerleading is to develop a sense of good sportsmanship and to instill, promote and uphold school spirit, enthusiasm and cooperation among the students at SCS and building relationships between opposing schools.
      - (2) The goal of the cheerleaders is to create and direct enthusiasm to the game. They should cheer for their team and respect the opponent.

- (3) No cheerleader will be permitted to quit the squad before the end of the season, except in cases of long-term injury or illness. A doctor's excuse will be necessary (see **Participation Requirements**).
- (4) The number of cheerleaders that will be chosen each year is determined at the discretion of the athletic director and coach.

#### AWARDS/POST SEASON BANQUETS

1. Awards are used in SCS athletics to recognize God given ability and achievement. Awards are given at the coach's discretion.
2. Senior Athlete Awards are given to one female and one male athlete who excel in athletics during their high school years at SCS. This is normally an athlete who participates in more than one sport.
3. Academic Athlete Awards are presented to the young man and young lady (junior or senior) who maintain the highest grade point average.
4. Christian Athlete Awards are the highest awards presented by the SCS Athletic Department. These are presented to the young man and the young lady who best demonstrate the qualities of a true winner and godliness in their action and attitude while participating in the athletic program of SCS. The Athletic Department, with coaches' input, determines these awards.
5. The purchase of letter jackets is the sole responsibility of the athlete. Jackets may be purchased from First Team Sports. Emblems for a particular sport will be received from the Athletic Department after a varsity athlete has met one of the following requirements:
  - a. Sufficient playing time:
    - 50% of all halves in soccer
    - 50% of all contests in volleyball
    - 50% of all matches in tennis
    - 50% of all quarters in basketball
    - 50% of all innings in baseball or softball
    - 50% of all quarters in football
    - 75% of all golf contests
    - 75% of all track meets
    - 75% of all cross country meets
    - 75% of all swim meets
  - b. Varsity cheerleaders must participate in all team competitions, cheer at all SCS home football and basketball games, demonstrate leadership on and off the floor and actively participate in school spirit activities
  - c. Recipient of an all-region, all-tournament or all-state award
  - d. Service as a team manager, student trainer, statistician or bookkeeper for at least two full seasons of a varsity sport.

NOTE: No letter may be received if a player quits or is dismissed from a team or squad.

#### STUDENT INSURANCE

Each SCS student must provide proof of medical insurance upon enrollment or re-enrollment. A student not covered by insurance will be required to purchase student insurance from the school at the beginning of the school year. Without adequate insurance, a student will not be allowed to enroll at SCS.

SCS has purchased student accident coverage to protect all students involved with school related activities. This particular insurance is against accidental injury or death as a result of school negligence and is not intended to be the sole insurance for a student. This supplemental policy pays excess benefits up to \$25,000.00 that are not recoverable from the primary policy. Parents choosing an out-of-network physician agree to pay for any additional expenses not covered by the primary or secondary insurance policies.

To file a claim:

1. Secure a claim form from the Superintendent's Office.
2. The claim form, an Explanation of Benefits and an itemized bill must be submitted and treatment is to have begun within 90 days from the date of injury.
3. Additional bills will require another claim form along with an Explanation of Benefits and an itemized bill.

If a claim is not accompanied by paid receipts, benefits will be made payable to the respective doctors and hospitals.

## SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC HOTLINES

864.234.7575

<b>Athletic Staff</b> .....	<b>Extension</b>
Steve Lockwood, Athletic Director .....	1330
Mike Johnson, Assistant Athletic Director.....	1328
Stacie Evans, Athletic Administrative Assistant .....	1331
Amy Burkett, Athletic Department Assistant.....	1332
Cynthia Horneffer, Athletic Department Assistant.....	1360
<b>Game Schedule</b> .....	<b>1450</b>
<b>Travel Information</b> .....	<b>See Individual Team Hotline</b>
<b>Baseball</b>	
Varsity Baseball .....	1465
<b>Basketball</b>	
Varsity Boys' Basketball.....	1460
JV Boys' Basketball.....	1459
Varsity Girls' Basketball.....	1461
JV Girls' Basketball.....	1462
<b>Cheerleading</b>	
Varsity Cheerleading.....	1455
<b>Cross Country/Track and Field</b>	
Cross Country/Track and Field .....	1451
<b>Football</b>	
Varsity .....	1482
JV.....	1472
<b>Golf</b>	
Varsity Boys' Golf.....	1468
<b>Soccer</b>	
Varsity Boys' Soccer .....	1454
JV Boys' Soccer.....	1457
Varsity Girls' Soccer .....	1469
JV Girls' Soccer.....	1464
<b>Softball</b>	
Softball.....	1466
JV Softball.....	1463
<b>Swimming</b>	
Swimming.....	1490
<b>Tennis</b>	
Varsity Boys' and Girls' Tennis .....	1467
<b>Volleyball</b>	
Varsity Volleyball .....	1453
JV Volleyball.....	1458



## Student Travel Request Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference:     Travel to: \_\_\_\_\_

                  Travel from: \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow \_\_\_\_\_ to ride to and from the above  
referenced with \_\_\_\_\_ rather than riding the activity bus back  
to campus.

If you have any questions, please call \_\_\_\_\_.

*By signing below, the parent is releasing Southside Christian School from any and all liability.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature