

# **Grace Academy Athletics Handbook**



**2011-12**

**3645 Pleasant Plains Road  
Matthews, NC 28104  
(704) 234-0292  
(704) 845 -1767  
FAX: (704) 234-2642  
[www.GraceAcademyNC.com](http://www.GraceAcademyNC.com)**

# Table of Contents

## Guidelines for Grace Academy Parents and Student Athletes

1. Introduction to Grace Academy
2. Overview of Grace Athletics
  - History
  - Vision
  - Philosophy
3. Grace Athletic Office Numbers
4. Athletic Policies and Expectations
5. Grace Athletic Teams
6. Student Team Managers
7. Teams We Play
8. Grace Athletic Funding

# What Is a College Model School?

A College Model School captures the best aspects of traditional schools and homeschooling and incorporates them into a workable pro-family model that is manageable, affordable, and successful.

It is essentially a concrete expression of a new educational model in which two proven elements of educational success, “the professional instruction of a classroom teacher and the one-on-one instruction and/or guidance of each student’s parents are combined in a single unified program.”

- Based on a university-style and adapted to the elementary, middle and senior high levels.
- The structure usually involves courses that are held on a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday basis.
- Determine for each course and at each grade level the appropriate integration of the school and home.
- Team-Teaching partnerships between parents and professional teachers.
- Require direct Parent involvement and have the parent be the one primarily responsible for keeping their student “on track.”
- Parents are responsible for teaching character values to the students which are also encouraged at Grace Academy.

## Benefits

- Direct parent involvement and caring, professional instruction.
- Maintains low student/teacher ratios.
- Utilizes effective curriculum materials.
- Emphasizes a strong work ethic for students that is time and cost effective.
- Natural preparation for college.
- Encourages strong family support and character.

# Grace Athletics

*... Let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us, looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith! Hebrews 12:1-2*

Grace Academy Athletics began as a dream in the fall of 2000 with the soccer program. From this small beginning, Grace today offers for middle school through high school students 12 teams to participate to the Glory of God.

## **The Vision and Philosophy of Grace Academy Athletics:**

- To glorify God through all the gifts of athletics He has given to us.
- To grow more in the character of Christ, since athletics is a microcosm of real life.
- For young people to find enjoyment in athletic competition and by being able to try various sports and develop their skills.
- To help young men and women who have a desire and ability to play at the college level and encourage them in the process.
- To use Grace Athletics as an opportunity to share Christ and His love with our community and throughout the world.

## **Grace Athletic Office Numbers**

**Matt Daniel**, Athletic Director: (704) 234-0292  
E-mail: [sports@GraceAcademyNC.com](mailto:sports@GraceAcademyNC.com) or sports@me.com

# **Athletic Policies and Expectations**

Grace Academy strives to provide an athletic environment conducive to building character, responsibility, commitment, teamwork, and relationships while promoting Christian principles and conduct.

Student-athletes are expected to follow guidelines as detailed below.

## **Eligibility**

Student-athletes must attend at least two classes at Grace Academy. Students must maintain at least a C average or above for classes at Grace Academy to be eligible to participate on athletic teams.

## **Sports Packet**

Grace Academy has prepared a convenient 5-page Sports Packet with handbook to collect all medical releases and information, permissions, payment options, and commitment agreements. All forms need to be filled out and returned to your coach by tryouts in order to participate in that team sport. You can get your Sports Packet from the Grace Academy Offices or online at [www.graceacademync.com](http://www.graceacademync.com) in the sports section.

## **Sports Cost**

To play a high school sport at Grace Academy, the cost is \$350 per person per team sport. This helps to offset the costs related to uniform and equipment expenses, field or gym rent, referees, and coaches. This payment is due in full prior to tryouts in order to participate and receive a uniform. Refunds will be given for those who do not make the team. Please read through the Sports Payment Option form in the Sports packet, choose one option, and return to your coach by tryouts.

## **Attendance**

Athletes are required to attend ALL PRACTICES, GAMES, AND MEETINGS. If a team member is unable to attend, he or she must notify the coach personally. We want to teach our student-athletes the responsibility of keeping a commitment, which is an essential part of life. Parents are responsible for ensuring timely arrival and pick-up of athletes for practices, games, and meetings.

## **Equipment/Uniforms**

School team uniforms will be distributed at the beginning of the season. To receive a uniform, your sports fee must be paid in full. All uniforms are the property of Grace Academy and must be returned to your coach at the end of the sports season in which they were used. Failure to return uniforms/equipment will result in being billed for the uniform, holding of grades, and suspension from future Grace Academy athletic participation.

## **Conduct**

Student-athletes are in a position of leadership as representatives of the school and their families. Grace athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a Christian manner at all times. Athletes should follow the rules of the Grace Family Handbook with regard to conduct and behavior. Those who are unable to comply risk suspension from athletic teams at Grace Academy.

## **Parents**

We know that parents play an essential role in all areas of a student-athlete's development. Parents are encouraged to support their student and the team by following some simple guidelines:

1. Show respect to officials and opponents.
2. Encourage all team members.
3. Support the coaches' decisions.
4. Any problems should be addressed with the coach/athletic department outside of practice and games.
5. Cooperate with the athletic teams to ensure your athlete follows the athletic requirements.

## **Medical**

Each student athlete will need to have a sports physical by a licensed North Carolina medical doctor. In the event that you need a sports physical, Presbyterian Matthews Urgent Care on Hwy 51 can provide one for you for a reasonable cost. Sports physicals are good for one year. Please have your doctor fill out the first page of your Sports Packet and deliver to your coach by tryouts.

## **Team Commitment Agreement**

One copy of the team commitment agreement is to be signed and turned in to the coach before participating in the first game.

**We appreciate your support of Grace Academy and our athletic teams!**

# Teams

Grace Academy offers 12 teams. The three sports seasons are Fall (August-November), Winter (October- March), and Spring (February-May).

## Sports Offered

Fall	Winter	Spring
Girls Volleyball	Girls Basketball	Girls Soccer
Girls Tennis	Cheerleading	Boys Baseball
Boys Soccer	Boys Basketball	Boys Tennis
Co-ed Cross Country	Co-ed Swimming	Co-ed Golf

## Athletic Teams, Seasons and Coaches

### Fall Season (August-November)

- **Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Soccer** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: Sully Silva: silva@graceacademync.com
- **Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Volleyball** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: Patty Jennings: coachjennings@graceacademync.com  
Head Coach: Melinda Davey: davey@graceacademync.com
- **Co-ed Cross Country** (Grades 6-12)  
Head Coach: Whitney Hetzel: coachhetzel@graceacademync.com
- **Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Tennis** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: John Trimp: coachtrimp@graceacademync.com

### Winter Season (October-March)

- **Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Basketball** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: Tim Sayles: coachsayles@graceacademync.com
- **Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Basketball** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: TBA: gracesports@me.com
- **Co-ed Swimming** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: TBA: gracesports@me.com
- **Cheerleading** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: TBA: gracesports@me.com

### Spring Season (March-May)

- **Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Baseball** (Grades 7-12)  
Coach: gracesports@me.com
- **Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Tennis** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: John Trimp: coachtrimp@graceacademync.com
- **Girls Soccer** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: Matt Daniel: coachdaniel@graceacademync.com
- **Co-ed Golf** (Grades 7-12)  
Head Coach: coachwilkins@graceacademync.com

# Student Team Managers

The Grace Academy Athletics program is accepting applications from students and prospective students to be student managers for various sports teams. Student managers are a very important part of Grace's athletic program.

## **Expectations/Requirements of Student Managers**

- Must be enrolled at Grace Academy.
- Must follow all team rules.
- Attend all practices and games.
- Recording of statistics; recording of games.
- Other responsibilities as assigned by the coaching staff.

## **Benefits of being a student manager**

- The opportunity to continue to stay involved with sports.
- The opportunity to be a part of a High School athletic program.
- The opportunity to earn an athletic "G" letter award.
- The possibility to earn a scholarship toward your college education.
- The opportunity to gain valuable work experience and a recommendation toward future employment.
- The opportunity to travel with Grace Academy sports teams to road games. Receive Grace Academy athletic apparel.

# Teams We Play

The Grace Academy Athletics program competes against a variety of schools, both public and private in each sport. Some of these include:

## Additional Teams

- Cannon School
- Carmel Christian School
- Central Academy of Technology and Arts
- Charlotte Catholic
- Charlotte Christian School
- Charlotte Country Day
- Charlotte Latin
- Covenant Classical
- Cox Mill High School
- First Assembly Concord
- Gaston Christian School
- Gaston Day
- Graystone Day School
- Hickory Grove Christian
- High Point Christian
- Lake Norman Charter School
- Lake Park Christian Academy
- Lincoln Charter School
- Metrolina Christian Academy
- North Hills Christian School
- Northside Christian Academy
- Parkwood High School
- Piedmont Community Charter School
- Piedmont High School
- Pine Lake Charter
- Porter Ridge High School
- Queens Grant Charter
- Southlake Christian
- Statesville Christian
- Sun Valley High School
- United Faith
- Victory Christian
- Wesleyan Academy
- Westminster Catawba

In addition, Grace Academy sports teams compete against national opponents at the National Association of Christian Athletics Tournament in Dayton, Tennessee.

# Grace Athletic Funding

Fundraisers are an important part of the Grace Academy Athletics program. In order to offer sports teams, we incur expenses throughout the year. It is necessary to use a variety of fundraising activities to help cover some of these expenses above the cost of the sport such as field or gym use, uniforms, equipment and referees.

Each team is required to participate in several fundraisers during the year. These can include:

- Car Washes
- Each member of every team to required to sell 10 Autobell car wash certificates as my team's annual fundraiser.