

Palmetto Charter

Athletic Department Policies

At the middle school level, students are learning concepts such as cooperation, team unity, school spirit, and the basic fundamentals of the sport. Although every effort will be made to involve each athlete, our ultimate goal is to play to win. Our philosophy at PCS is that the students will get better through practices with their coach in their specific sport, and through this practice we hope it translates into being better prepared for the game if given the opportunity to perform. Please understand that every athlete will not get to play an equal amount in each game. In games that will determine the team's post season eligibility or in tournament play, it is possible that every athlete may not play every game. We never want to put an athlete in a situation that may result in undue pressure to perform. We appreciate the support and understanding of parents as we endeavor to fairly apply this policy.

- **We charge an athletic fee of \$20 per sport. The reason we do this is to help pay for our ref fees, sports equipment, uniforms, and facility rentals. Checks should be made to Palmetto Charter School and may be turned into the athletic director or the front office.**

Athletic Department Objectives

- To recognize that each individual has a unique set of skills, and to provide the opportunities for maximum participation for all students in a variety of activities and play.
- To develop within each athlete the individual and team skills necessary to compete successfully.
- To develop within each athlete strong team spirit and loyalty to the school
- To teach good sportsmanship.
- To provide opportunities for athletes to encourage self confidence, sociability, initiative, and belonging.
- To promote an understanding of body growth and development, and to stress the importance of good health habits in aiding that growth and development.
- To provide the leadership, rules, and disciplines necessary to assist each athlete in attaining all of these objectives.

General Beliefs

- PCS believes that athletics are an integral part of our total educational program.
- We believe that each sport provides an activity through which students may express themselves physically, emotionally, and mentally.
- We strongly encourage parents to get involved with coaching opportunities.
- We believe that coaches have the unique opportunity to direct and encourage students in the development of their life.
- We believe that parents play a vital role in supporting the coaching staff; therefore we feel that parents should wait until the following school day to discuss any issues or concerns with the athletic director.
- The athletic director has been assigned by the principal to administer the athletic program. Head coaches are directly responsible to the athletic director and are charged with the supervision of the student athletes related to their program.
- We believe that the "student athlete" should be held to a higher standard because they are representing the schools character.

Athletic Discipline/Eligibility Policy

- Athletic contests may be forfeited due to a students' conduct or behavior within school. (Example: A team with a roster of 5 players that needs all 5 players to participate, and 1 player is suspended for the game, the game will be forfeited by PCS. This is to teach the students that they have a responsibility to the team and that they need to take ownership of their actions.)
- Student athletes **MUST** maintain a **GPA OF 2.5** or higher for each quarter. Failure to maintain this standard will result in that player missing games until their GPA is higher than a 2.5. The player will be able to practice and stay apart of the team, but will not be able to participate in the game.
- Practice Seasons-** Athletes are expected to attend all practices. Athletes must be excused in advance by the coach for any practices missed. Injured athletes who are able to attend sessions shall be expected to do so.
- Language** – Profanity will not be tolerated in any form. A violation of this rule will be referred to the administration.
- Absence from school** – The student may not participate in practice or in a contest on a day that they are absent from school, unless excused by an administrator.
- Appearance** – Students involved in interscholastic athletics are required to follow the school's guidelines for proper appearance as well as any additional requirements from the coach.
- Disciplinary action** – Students having received disciplinary penalties by the administration must satisfy these obligations as assigned before they may return to practice or competition.
 - **1st referral:** **1 game suspension**
 - **2nd referral:** **1 week suspension**
 - **3rd referral:** **Removal from team**
- Quitting without coach's consent** – Suspension for the rest of the season, and the next sport season. Athletes must fulfill their obligations and learn that quitting is not tolerated.
- Missing of a contest** – If a student has to miss any game or contest he/she must notify the coach at least 1 week in advance. If it is an excused absence, no penalty will follow.
- Transportation** – PCS parents will be responsible for transportation to and from all athletic events.

I AGREE WITH THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND WILL UPHOLD THE PCS ATHLETIC POLICIES

Athlete Signature (Date)

Parent Signature (Date)
