

St. Rita



Athletics Handbook

Mission

The St. Rita community supports an athletics program that provides the student athlete many opportunities to develop his/her individual skills while contributing to a team. Our mission is to provide and establish a wholesome program that promotes sportsmanship and fair play with an emphasis on teaching character, athletic and social skills, and a healthy attitude. We also will strive to always promote a Christian example, never forgetting that in this example, the attitude of sportsmanship shall always prevail.

Organizational Structure

The St. Rita Booster Club Officers and Board of Directors consists of the President, Vice-President, two Co-Treasurers, Secretary and four at-large board members. The Booster Club also consists of Sports Coordinators, Ball Field and Gym managers, an Athletic Director, and other members the President deems necessary. The School principal/school board committee selects a Sports Liaison candidate annually who is in charge of working with all St. Rita Booster Club board members and coordinators to spread knowledge of the sports programs and ongoings to the student body, parents and staff.

Booster Club Executive Officers

President

Vice

President

Co-

Treasurers

Secretary

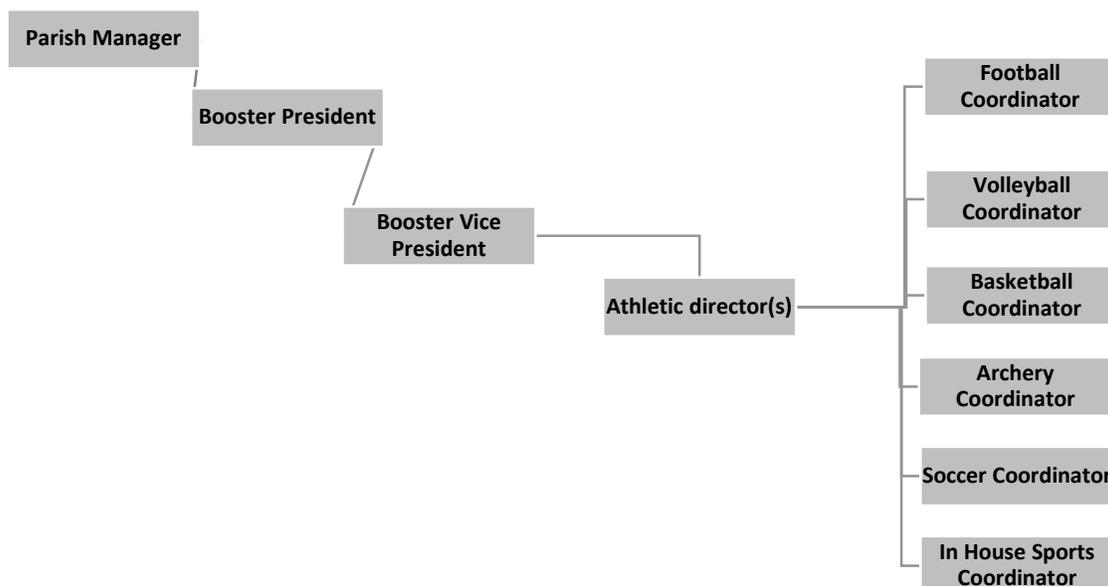
Athletic Director

The Athletic Director (A.D.) is responsible for overseeing the operations of the athletic program. The A.D. assures that the sports programs follow the regulations and standards set forth by the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA) and the St. Rita Booster Club. The Athletic Director is appointed by the President, and is responsible for the recruitment and training of all Sports Coordinators.

Sports Coordinators

A sports coordinator is assigned to each sport. His/her duties consist of the recruitment and assigning of coaches to be presented before the Athletic Director, supervision of try-outs and team selection, practice schedules and uniform distribution and collection. They are also responsible for ensuring that all keys, are returned to the Booster Vice President and/or Athletic Director. The Athletic Director and coaches evaluate each coordinator each year.

Organizational Flow Chart and Notes



Notes:

- *Athletic Director and the Booster Board and officers will select 6 sports coordinators. All officer positions and non officers are eligible for coordinator positions. If a sport gains or loses interest, these positions can change titles in forthcoming years.**
- *The coordinators will report directly to Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will report directly to the Booster Vice President with oversight from the Booster President.**
- *All CSAA Sports without a coordinator position (cross country, softball, field hockey, etc.) will be handled directly via the Athletic Director or an assigned coordinator chosen by Athletic Director.**
- *Athletic Director and all coordinator positions will be updated annually after Booster board elections.**
 - *All coaches will report directly to designated coordinator for specific sport or to the Athletic Director if no coordinator exists.**
 - *The school supports St. Rita Sports; however, school administration does not administer to, nor supervises the sports programs. A school liaison has been assigned to work with the Booster Club to coordinate on the communication of Sports. The Athletic Director and School Principal will work together regarding student matters, such as eligibility and/or discipline concerns, when needed. School Principal/School Board will oversee the naming of the school liaison.**
- *Booster President will oversee and appoint with the help of the Booster Board, a Grievance Committee lead and team to handle any athletic related grievances filed. For more information regarding grievances please see the Booster By-Laws.**

Sports

St. Rita sports program offers twelve (12) sports sanctioned by the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA)(*) for Grades 3-8. We also offer sports programs not sanctioned by the CSAA.

Archery	Winter into Spring
Basketball *(PreK-8)	Fall
Cheerleading (PreK-8)	Summer
Cross Country *	Summer
Dance (PreK-8)	Summer
Football *(PreK-8)	Summer
Golf *	Spring
Soccer *	Spring
Softball *	Spring
Tennis *	Late Spring
Track & Field *	Spring
Volleyball (G)(B) *(K-8)	Summer (G) Winter(B)

Work Commitment

Registration fees, concessions, and gate fees fund St. Rita Booster Club. All the money raised through these events go right back into the sports programs. To keep registration fees as low as possible, and keep our facilities in good condition, parents are expected to assist. The Booster Club requires that one parent work two (2) hours per child per sport. It is the responsibility of the parent to insure they work their commitment.

Sports Registration

Registering for all sports 3rd-8th grade is to be completed online at <https://gameday.loucsaa.net/login> Registration starts at least four (4) weeks before the start of the sports season. Once registration has closed, players are only allowed on a team, as space allows. The reason for this rule is as follows: Sometimes the CSAA requires us to report the number of teams before we have tryouts. This can result in us reporting too few teams to the CSAA. If because of late registration we need to change our counts to the CSAA, we are sometimes assessed a financial penalty from the CSAA. Second, if we have too many players on a team, it limits the amount of playing time for each individual.

Registering for all sports Pre-Kindergarten-2nd grade will be handled in house and will be relayed through school media such as the Mustang Express, Paper handouts in folders and our athletic Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/201108405606>

Annual Booster Enrollment Card and Fee

Before Registering for all sports is to be completed online or in person, our parents must fill out a Booster enrollment card and pay a \$20 membership fee which covers the entire family. This card must be filled out and renewed annually by the parents of all student athletes. Without this membership being fulfilled a student athlete will be ineligible to participate in any in-season game participation. These membership cards also give the booster club emergency contact information for each athlete and a shirt size for coaches to use when ordering uniforms throughout the athletic calendar year. Membership grants all parent/guardians access as a full-time booster member. Parents/Members are encouraged to attend our monthly Booster club meetings traditionally held the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm inside our gymnasium. All full-time booster members shall have voting rights on all general membership voting matters as well as the annual Booster officer elections, as long as the full-time members have attended and signed in at 1 of the last 4 general member booster meetings.

Registration Dates (subject to change)

Sport	Open	Close	First Practice
Archery	7/16	8/15	10/1
Basketball	9/16	10/15	3 rd Monday of October
Basketball (LS)	9/16	11/30	12/1
Cheerleading	5/16	7/14	August 1
Cheer (sideline)	5/16	7/14	August 1
Cross Country	5/16	7/14	3 rd Monday of July
Football	5/16	7/14	3 rd Monday of July
Flag Football	5/16	8/14	August 15
Golf	1/16	2/15	March 1
Soccer	1/16	2/15	March 1
Soccer (LS)	1/16	2/15	March 1
Softball	1/16	2/15	March 1
Track	1/16	2/15	March 1
Volleyball (G)	5/16	7/14	3 rd Monday of July
Volleyball (B)	1/1	1/24	2 nd Monday of February

Payment

Online payment is required during registration for CSAA sports through CSAA Gameday. If your child decides not to play, a credit to your account, minus \$5 processing fee, will be issued up until the first day of tryouts. No credits or refunds will be issued after the first day of tryouts.

Eligibility Requirements

St. Rita is a member of the Catholic School Athletic Association (CSAA). As a member, we follow all the policies and guidelines set forth by the CSAA, and/or the sanctioning club authority. The CSAA Handbook is located under the website at: [CSAA Louisville – Catholic Schools Athletic Association \(loucsaa.net\)](http://loucsaa.net)

All students of St. Rita are eligible to participate in the sports program if they meet the age, grade, and sacrament requirements of the CSAA. Student athletes that do not attend school at St. Rita, may participate if they are members in good standing of the parish of St. Rita and they attend religious education classes. They must also adhere to the age, grade, and sacrament requirements set forth from the CSAA.

School Attendance

If a student is absent from school for any reason, they are NOT permitted to play or practice that day. In addition, if a student would accumulate enough unexcused absences, as defined in the school's Handbook as "Chronic Absences," the student will be suspended from sports until progress is shown in attending school.

Any student suspended from school or on school probation will not be permitted to practice or play in any sports until the suspension and/or probation has been lifted. The St. Rita School's Handbook can be located at the following links:

- [English](#)
- [Spanish](#)

Academics

A St. Rita School student must be in good academic standing with their grades to be eligible for sports or to practice and play in games. The St. Rita Athletic Director will work with the School Principal to review the grades of any student that registers for a sport prior to and during the interim that the student is involved in any St. Rita sport. If a student is not in good academic standing, the student may not be able to join a team or may not be able to practice or play in the games until academic progress is shown.

Expectations of Coaches

St. Rita Coaches are expected to:

- Place the well-being of their student-athletes ahead of the desire to win.
- Watch the CSAA Coaches Video.
- Attend the Archdiocese S.A.F.E training class.
- Exemplify high standards.
- Use appropriate language when communicating with student-athletes.
- Enforce and teach the rules and regulations of the game and those of the CSAA and Booster

Club.

- Respect the integrity and judgement of the game officials.
- Utilize appropriate coaching techniques during instruction.
- Maintain appropriate apparel wear (St. Rita branded shirts/polo shirts, closed toed shoes) during practices and games.
- Ensure that at the end of practices they visually confirm an adult parent/guardian has picked up athletes. No releasing athletes outside alone or sending to cars where parent/guardians are waiting regardless of age or grade.
- All injuries sustained in practice no matter how minor must be reported to the parent/guardian during pickup at the end of practice. If a major or concerning injury (concussions, broken bones) the parents must be contacted immediately along with athletic director/coordinator and/or medical assistance if required.

Expectations of the Student Athlete

- Follow the rules and regulations of the game.
- Follow the rules of the CSAA, Booster Club and their coach.
- Follow the rules of the school.
- Attend school and maintain minimum grade eligibility.
- Must respect all teammates and coaching staff.
- Never use foul language.
- Always put their teammates ahead of themselves.

Expectations of the Parents

- Do not force your child to participate in sports.
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of your child or others.
- Learn the rules of the game, CSAA, and the Booster Club.
- Be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship.
- Do not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with officials, coaches, players, parents, or game management.
- Attend as many of your child's games as possible.
- Do not speak poorly of your child's coaches. Respect for all is key to teaching your child about authority.

Grievances

While we try to make all student athletes' sports experience a good one, there will be times when this is not always possible. If you have concerns during the season, we ask you follow the protocols set forth by the St. Rita Booster Club.

1. Must wait 24 hours before voicing your concerns to the head coach.
2. If you feel this has not helped you reach a satisfactory conclusion, ask to speak to the Sports Coordinator.
3. If a concern remains, ask to speak to the Athletic Director.

4. If the Athletic Director is unable to help, you may take your concerns to the St. Rita Athletic Review and Grievance Board. The President of the Board name and contact shall be posted on the bulletin outside of gymnasium concessions.
5. If all else fails, a meeting with the Pastor of St. Rita can be conducted.

Team Placement

Every student that registers before the cutoff date is guaranteed a spot on a team. Choosing members of each team is the responsibility of the Sports Coordinator. The Sports Coordinator may enlist the assistance from other individuals that do not have a child or interest in that sports team.

Practice

Every student athlete is required to be present at every practice. We understand that there are times when a student is unable to show up, but we encourage them to make every effort to attend. The amount of time allowed to practice, falls under the rules and regulations of the CSAA. Practice on a Holy Day of Obligation is not permitted.

Weather Policy

If school is closed, during the school week (Monday-Friday), all practices and games will be cancelled for that day. The CSAA will make a decision to cancel any games played on the weekend.

Equipment and Facilities

Each head coach is responsible for the care and control of all equipment used by his/her team. The head coach will make sure all equipment and uniforms are returned to the sports coordinator after their season has ended. This includes and is not limited to keys, balls, and uniforms. Players are responsible for ensuring that their uniforms are clean and free of damage. Players are responsible for making sure their entire uniform is returned to the head coach at the end of the season. All players and coaching staff are required to follow the rules and regulations of the fields and facility.