

## **ST. CECILIA SPORTS OVERVIEW & PARTICIPATION RULES**

As part of our effort towards the continuous improvement of the St. Cecilia Athletic Program, the Athletic Board is requiring that anybody who plans to participate in any of our Sports Programs (Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Volleyball, and/or Track) to read the following document and hand in the signature acknowledgement section at the bottom. This acknowledgement will be necessary before any child can participate.

Please bring this form with you when you pay your Athletic Fees at the start of the school year. If you don't plan to pay for your Athletic Fees in person, be sure to include this signed form when you send in your fees.

### **ST. CECILIA ATHLETIC PROGRAM GOALS**

The St. Cecilia Parish Athletic Program is designed to be representative of the Christian values in life. As Christians, we are constantly challenged to better ourselves. In team sports we strive for improvement, both as individuals and as a group. The development of Christian values is the primary focus of the St. Cecilia Parish Athletic Program. Athletic participation is one arena in which coaches, athletic director, officials, student-athletes, and spectators should strive to manifest and exemplify the ideals of Christian life.

The St. Cecilia Parish Athletic Program has a responsibility to each of its participants (coaches, players and officials), to provide the best possible atmosphere of competition; such competition should not be based solely in terms of winning and losing, but rather in terms of improvement, enjoyment, and building self-confidence. In order to accomplish these goals the participants must become gracious winners and losers, understanding that team participation and goals are more important than individual performance. The concept of team participation allows the athletes to experience individual growth while encouraging growth of their teammates, peers, friends, and competitors.

### **PLAYER GOALS**

This list is not all inclusive but highlights some of the major player expectations:

- 1) Treat opponents with respect; shake hands after contests.
- 2) Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest.
- 3) Play in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values.
- 4) St. Cecilia practices and games take precedence over other sports activities; like Club Sports.
- 5) Players shall respect, listen and learn from their coach.
- 6). Accept seriously the responsibility of representing the school or parish by displaying positive behavior at all times.

### **PARENT GOALS**

Parents also need to always 'Honor the Game' and like the Coach, help fill the emotional tank of their kids in a positive way. Competitive sports are stressful to players, and the last thing they need is a critic at home. Focus on the positive things he/she is doing, and leave the correcting of mistakes to the coach. Let her/him know you support them without reservation, regardless of how well he/she plays. Cheer for all of the players on the team. Tell each of them when you see them doing something well. Parents also play an important role in letting a coach "coach" and not interfering with the direction the kids are given in practice and/or games.

Parents should respect all practice times and games such that they pick-up & drop-off their children as required. Continuously picking up your children late puts an added burden on the Coach.

# St. Cecilia Parish Athletic Program

## Player Participation Agreement

Players and their families must commit to high attendance of practices and games in order to participate in the St. Cecilia Parish Athletic Program. Players are expected to attend all practices & games, arrive on time, and remain for the entire scheduled time.

Players who have missed school due to illness may not attend either a practice or game on the same day. If this rule is **not** properly enforced for that day, the Player is then not allowed to participate in the subsequent game. Players who are ill on Friday may attend and participate in a game over the weekend if their illness permits, but cannot participate on that Friday (same day as being absent from school).

St. Cecilia practices and games take precedence over other non-St. Cecilia activities. This includes all St. Cecilia Parish sponsored sporting events (i.e. team participation in the St. Cecilia/Holy Name Tournament).

Any absences from practices and games, i.e. for illness, educational assistance, a family trip, etc., must be properly communicated to the coach in a timely manner.

Players with a pattern of excessive or unreasonable absence, without proper communication with the coach, may be subject to disciplinary actions, such as:

1. having playing time reduced to the minimum, as required by CYO, for the next scheduled game
2. not starting in the next scheduled game
3. suspension from the next scheduled game
4. dismissal from the team
5. prohibition from playing in the player's next sport of choice.

The Athletic Director(s) will have the discretion to review all situations of player absences from practices and/or games.

### Grievance policies and procedures:

The Athletic Program Guidebook is available on the St. Cecilia Parish website: ([www.stcecilia.com/community/cyo\\_athletics](http://www.stcecilia.com/community/cyo_athletics)). Parents or players with a concern or grievance regarding the Parish Athletic Program shall follow the following hierarchy of review:

- o 1st contact: Coach and/or Coaches
- o 2nd Contact: Athletic Director
- o 3rd Contact: Athletic Board Membership
- o 4th Contact: Pastor

------(Detach & return bottom portion to the School Athletic Director)-----

**Due Date: August 31<sup>st</sup> 2012**

I have read the St. Cecilia Athletic Player Participation Agreement for 2012 - 2013 and agree to abide by the guidelines of the St. Cecilia Athletic Program.

Player's name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Room #: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_