

CHESS Sports Guidelines for Competitive Teams

Revised August 24, 2023

Sports Committee Guidelines

1. Is responsible for the administration and direction of the CHESS Sports program.
2. Recruits and approves new coaches for sports teams, as needed.
3. Handles disciplinary issues that have been escalated above the team or program level, as needed.
4. Is chaired by the athletic director and is made up of the athletic director, all program directors, the sports treasurer, and the sports secretary. if the total number of committee members is less than five, head coaches and/or parents may be selected to serve on the sports committee.

Athletic Director Guidelines

1. Responsible for overseeing all CHESS sporting events, games, practices, etc.
2. Assists program directors and coaches as needed.
3. Assists program directors with the purchase and distribution of supplies, equipment, uniforms, etc., as needed.
4. Communicates with program directors, coaches and families in a timely manner concerning new sports opportunities for students.
5. Plans the Awards Banquet with the assistance of the program directors of each individual sport.
6. Serves as the chair of the CHESS sports committee and reports to the CHESS administrative board on behalf of all CHESS sports programs.

Program Director Guidelines

1. Assists the athletic director in overseeing CHESS sporting events, games, practices, etc. within their particular sports program (i.e. volleyball, basketball, cross country, elementary basketball, etc.).
2. Assists coaches as needed.
3. Purchases and distributes supplies, equipment, uniforms, etc. for their particular sports program.
4. Communicates with coaches and families in a timely manner concerning new opportunities for students as the Lord leads.
5. Assists the athletic director in planning the Awards Banquet.
6. Serves on the CHESS sports committee.

Coach Guidelines

1. Coach is supportive of athletic director and program director.
2. Coach is responsible for setting the schedule for practices.
3. Coach has the right to play students at his/her discretion (due to attitude, ability, missed practices, goofing off during practices, etc.)

4. Coach starts/ends all practices and games in prayer. Keeps athletes focused on pleasing God! Coach may bring devotions or have an athlete offer one at his/her discretion.
5. Depending on the level of response from CHESST athletes, additional tryouts may be used by the coach to fill the teams.
6. Each year the coach will work with the athletic director and program director to set the dates for the beginning of practices and the cutoff for accepting additional players.

Athlete Guidelines

1. In order to play sports with CHESST, the athlete's family must be a current member in good standing of CHESST (i.e. the family must have completed the CHESST membership application, acknowledged agreement with the CHESST By-Laws and the CHESST Release of Liability form and must have paid their CHESST membership dues).
2. Shows respect to coach at all times.
3. Will listen to instruction and put forth his/her best effort.
4. Will do his/her best to attend all scheduled practices and will communicate with the coach when this is not possible.
5. Will dress modestly at all CHESST sports activities. Athlete will not wear any clothing that shows or reveals undergarments or cleavage. These dress guidelines are for practices, games and other CHESST-sponsored sports-related activities.
6. In order to be eligible to play sports with CHESST, all athletes must be in compliance with the TAIAGO eligibility guidelines found in the TAIAGO General Rules, Sub Chapter G – Eligibility. The TAIAGO General Rules can be found on the TAIAGO website (<https://www.taiao.org>).

Parents Guidelines

1. Be supportive of child's coach.
2. In a respectful manner, parents should direct any concerns or suggestions to the athletic director, program director or coach, not referees or score keepers. The athletic director, program directors and coaches are responsible for handling any problems or concerns that might arise.
3. Parents should not voice frustrations or complaints to coaches directly after a game, especially in the case of a loss. When such frustrations need to be shared, parents should schedule a meeting with the coach before or after a practice.
4. Parents are responsible for paying all sports fees and tournament fees by the time they are due.
5. All parents are required to serve as volunteers at home games or in other areas of need within each sports program that their child(ren) is/are participating. Failure to do so will result in additional fees being charged to the family to compensate others to serve in their stead. The number of times a parent must volunteer will be determined by each program director and announced at the beginning of the season for each sport.

Athletic Director, Program Director, Coach, Athlete and Parent Guidelines

1. The athletic director, program directors, coaches, athletes, and parents should all maintain a Christ-like attitude in all they say and do. "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it ALL for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31 – emphasis added). So whether we play, coach or watch CHESS sports, let us do so for the glory of God!
2. The athletic director, program directors, coaches, athletes and parents should all maintain respectful attitudes with their actions and words toward referees. We want our families to cheer for our kids loudly and proudly, but when it comes to the officiating, we need to leave it to the referees. We understand they will miss calls or we will disagree with a call, but it is their call and it needs to be heard and respected. When we voice our opinions from the side lines not only does it affect the referee, but it affects our children and our testimonies as a Christian group. Please refrain from making any negative or disrespectful comments to the referees. "Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3). "If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in ALL things GOD may be praised through Jesus Christ. To HIM be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4:11 – emphasis added).
3. Please remember our coaches serve on a voluntary basis and receive no compensation for all the love, time and energy they give to our children. Please be respectful of that and show your appreciation.

Sports Fees

1. There is a \$120 fee per year for each participant which covers any sport the athlete is involved in under CHESS Sports. Discounts will be offered to families with two or more athletes. Families with two athletes will pay \$100 for the second athlete for the year, for a total of \$220 in sports fees. Families with three athletes will pay \$80 for the third athlete for the year, for a total of \$300 in sports fees. Families with four or more student athletes will not be required to pay more than \$300 in sports fees for the year. Sports fees are used to assist in paying facility fees, post-season tournament fees, referee fees and purchasing sports equipment. Athletes who participate in the elementary basketball program do not pay sports fees nor do they count towards the family discount. Elementary basketball players simply pay a fee based on the actual costs of participating in schedule events for their season.
2. **In general, sports fees for volleyball players and cross country runners are due by August 1st and sports fees for basketball players are due by November 1st.** The athletic director and program directors reserve the right to move these deadlines to an earlier date at their discretion, when deemed necessary.
3. Any tournament fees will be divided by the number of active players on each team's roster regardless of tournament participation. Tournament fees for elementary teams will be included in the elementary basketball fee.

4. Each parent is responsible for paying for his/her child's uniform. Your athletic director, program director and/or coaches will let you know the price and when orders will be placed.
5. Player registration, signing of forms and payment of sports related fees should be done online through the CHESS website (<https://chess-tx.org>).

Adherence to Guidelines

1. CHESS athletes whose families have not paid all sports fees before regular season games start will NOT be able to play in games until said fees have been submitted. This will be strictly enforced by the CHESS coaches. It is each family's responsibility to make sure that their fees and signed Sports Guidelines form is turned in on time. If a family is having difficulty paying their sports fees, it is their responsibility to make arrangements with the Sports Treasurer before the start of any games.
2. A parent's or an athlete's involvement in CHESS athletic activities may be limited at the Athletic Director's, Program Director's and/or Coach's discretion.
3. Registering for CHESS sports is an acknowledgement that both parents have read the Sports Guidelines and that their entire family agrees to follow them. A family will be asked to leave any sporting event when any member of their family chooses not to follow the CHESS Sports Guidelines. If a family member continues not to follow these Sports Guidelines, they will be asked to meet with the CHESS athletic director, the CHESS sports committee, the CHESS administrative board, and/or the CHESS advisory team and could possibly lose their family's privilege to participate in CHESS Sports.