



A Challenge Foundation ✦ Academy

Athletic Manual

Cornerstone Charter Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy (CCA-CFA) Middle School & High School Athletic Program

CCA-CFA's interscholastic athletic program is an integral part of the total school program, and as such, is designed to help our students lead themselves, lead others, and lead in the community. While the academic area is the primary focus of our school, we believe participation in an athletic program affords opportunities, training, and experiences not ordinarily available in the regular curriculum. We hope your involvement in this program will provide rewarding and worthwhile experiences.

Hiring skilled coaches who exemplify our leadership beliefs and build rich relationships with our student athletes is our focus. Because our athletic program is designed to supplement and support our academic program, wherever possible, our coaching will be comprised of full-time Cornerstone staff. Regardless of who may be coaching, we strive to hire coaches who model the character and behavior we expect from our student athletes.

This handbook is designed to inform the CCA-CFA athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian of the rules, regulations and policies of the Athletic Department. We believe that success in athletics is established and maintained through adherence to the principles outlined in this handbook. Athletics are conducted after the regular school day. The athlete must earn the privilege of participation through dedication, desire, and discipline. Because participation is voluntary, certain basic requirements are necessary in order to make the athletic program a wholesome, successful, and meaningful experience. Athletic teams will be fielded based on the number of participants needed to play competitively against opponents and the financial feasibility of the athletic program.

CCA-CFA is a member of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA). As such, our high school athletics program abides by all the rules and regulations established by the NCHSAA. These rules and regulations can be found here:

[NCHSAA Rules and Regulations](#)

2019-2020 CCA-CFA Middle School Athletics

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Boys Soccer	Boys Swimming	Girls Soccer
Volleyball	Girls Swimming	Baseball
Boys Cross Country	Girls Basketball	Softball
Girls Cross Country	Boys Basketball	Coed Golf
Girls Tennis	Cheer	Boys Track and Field
		Girls Track and Field

2019-2020 CCA-CFA High School Athletics

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Men's Soccer	Men's Swimming	Men's Tennis
Women's Volleyball	Women's Swimming	Women's Soccer
JV Women's Volleyball	Women's Basketball	Baseball
Men's Cross Country	Men's Basketball	Softball
Women's Cross Country	Cheerleading	Men's Golf
Women's Tennis		Men's Track and Field
		Women's Track and Field

The following information can be located on our CCA-CFA Website
(<https://cornerstone.teamcfa.school/student-life/athletics/>):

Schedules and Contact Info

Athletic Director Contact Info

Head Coaching Contact Info

Tryout Schedules

Game Schedules

Official Forms

Physical Forms

Concussion Forms

Consent to Participate

Insurance Waiver

Student Pledge

Transportation Waiver

Student/Athlete Conduct Expectations

Participation in extracurricular activities, including athletics, is a privilege, not a right. The CCA-CFA Board of Directors expects all students who represent their school through participation in extracurricular activities to be good representatives of the CCA-CFA community. Students should dress, act, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects positively on CCA-CFA. Each student is expected to display positive citizenship at all times. All student-athletes are expected to conform with the conduct expectations set out by CCA-CFA and their respective associations.

Athletes and spectators must exhibit positive sportsmanship. Taunting is prohibited. Taunting includes actions or comments that are distracting. Any student or spectator who fails to conduct him or her self appropriately may have the privilege of participation limited or revoked. Student athletes are expected to exhibit:

- **Respect** – For oneself, teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, fans, team managers, bus drivers, and athletic staff.
- **Responsibility** – By attending practices/games, being on time every day, and being prepared to improve in skill level and knowledge of the sport. Athletes are **expected to adhere to the school rules and expectations as stated in the CCA-CFA Code of Conduct**. Anyone in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary consequences.
- **Sportsmanship** – Every action, body language, attitude, and spoken word is a reflection of oneself and a reflection of the school. Student athletes should be committed to being the “bigger” person in difficult situations.

In addition to the CCA-CFA expectations for student/athlete and parent sportsmanship, our athletic program will abide by the sportsmanship expectations of the NCHSAA. These guidelines can be found here: [NCHSAA Together We Make The Right CALL](#).

Disciplinary Action

Any student whose conduct on the playing field or in the classroom is determined to be a discredit to him/her, the team, or the school may be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the coach. Disciplinary action may include suspension from competition and/or removal from the team. In certain circumstances, the athletic director or school administrators may determine disciplinary actions.

Student conduct that violates the CCA-CFA Code of Conduct and/or the NCHSAA expectations will be disciplined by the school administration. Appeals to any of these determinations will be handled through the school grievance policy provided in the CCA-CFA Parent/Student Handbook. Student/athletes who have been suspended out of school are ineligible to participate in athletics on the days they are serving this suspension.

Additionally, CCA High School athletes will be governed by the NCHSAA rules for sportsmanship and conduct. These rules are located here: [NCHSAA Rules for Sportsmanship and Conduct](#). Violations of these rules will result in consequences consistent with both NCHSAA and CCA-CFA.

Expectations of Parents

CCA-CFA parents are expected to support the coach, all student athletes and athletic policies. Parents are encouraged to **cheer on all teams** while refraining from verbally abusing game officials or the opposing team. Finally, parents who have **concerns about their child's athletic experience should first contact the coach** and, if unresolved, follow-up with the Athletic Director.

Attendance at any CCA-CFA athletic events, practices or contests, is contingent upon abiding by reasonable expectations for appropriate conduct. Attendees whose conduct is considered detrimental to a positive environment are subject to removal by school staff. Continued violation of reasonable behavioral norms may result in the banning of the individual from attending CCA-CFA athletic events.

Athletic Eligibility Information

Academic Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in athletics at Cornerstone students must pass all of their classes for the previous semester. Any grade of “F” for a semester would render the student ineligible for the next semester. If a student becomes academically ineligible, he or she cannot become eligible again until the subsequent semester is completed. Students are exempt from this requirement during the first semester of their 6th and 9th grade years.

Attendance Eligibility

In order for a student to be eligible to participate in athletics at Cornerstone they must have been in attendance for a minimum of 85% of the previous semester. This percentage is calculated using daily attendance for middle school students and period attendance for high school students. If a student becomes ineligible due to attendance, he/she cannot become eligible again until the subsequent semester is completed. Students are exempt from this requirement during the first semester of their 6th and 9th grade years.

Physical

All athletes (middle school and high school) must have a completed and signed NCHSAA Sport Physical Form on file in the athletic department before they practice, participate in contests, or participate in skill development sessions. The physical is valid for 395 days and must be current until the end of a specific sport season.

Concussion Form

All students (middle school and high school) must have a completed and signed concussion form on file in the athletic office to be eligible to participate. This form requires the signature of both the athlete and parent/guardian. The form is valid for 365 days and must be current until the end of a specific sport season.

Preseason Parent/Guardian Meeting

All sports (middle and high school) are required to have a preseason parent meeting before the first game. At this meeting, the coach will go over expectations, team rules, sportsmanship, and answer any questions. This is a required meeting for all parents or guardians of participants on the team. While athletes are not required to attend it is strongly suggested. If the parent cannot attend this required meeting, the athlete will not be allowed to participate until such time as the parent meets with the coach. During this meeting parents/guardians will be asked to sign a sportsmanship pledge, a NCHSAA consent to participate form, and an insurance waiver form. All three of these forms must be signed and on file with the athletic department for a student athlete to be eligible.

General Information

Try-outs

The general philosophy for CCA-CFA athletics is to encourage all interested students to participate. Thus, we encourage fair team selection. There will be notifications given to each athlete regarding their status on the team. Obviously, time, space, facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport. However, when developing policies in this regard, our coaching staff strives to maximize the opportunities for students without diluting the quality of the programs.

Team Selection Responsibilities

Choosing the members of the athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads.

Selection Procedure

When a selection procedure becomes a necessity, team rosters will be posted anonymously. Coaches will discuss alternative possibilities for participation in the sport or other areas in the sport. (Manager/statistician etc...) At the parents or students request, coaches will meet and discuss the reasons for the decision.

Transportation

Transportation by activity bus will be provided to away games whenever possible. However, the large number of teams participating and the cost involved makes it difficult to provide transportation in every case for all teams. When buses are not available parents are responsible for transporting athletes to and from games. Parents are responsible for providing transportation to all practices. All parents will be asked to sign a transportation waiver.

Pick up from Practices/Games

Participation is a privilege, not a right. Parents are expected to pick up their students from all practices and games on time. Coaches will attempt to provide help if a parent has a conflict. Parents will be asked to provide a list of authorized drivers. In the event of an emergency, parents are required to provide verbal confirmation to the coach. Authorized drivers to and from games/practices will participate in a criminal background check that will be conducted by CCA-CFA. In the event that parent is continually late, an action plan may be implemented by the coach up to and including removal from the team.

Inclement Weather Policy/Alerts

If rain, snow, ice or other inclement weather impacts the practice or game schedule, coaches will notify families as soon as the school has all necessary information to make an informed decision. Game cancellation and changes in game times will be communicated through the athletic department using the REMIND app.

Uniforms

Uniforms will be issued to each team member. Each student is responsible for the uniform issued. Damaged or lost uniforms will result in a fine equal to the full replacement value. Students will not be eligible to participate in the athletic program until the fine is cleared. Students are expected to wear the uniform provided for them by the school