

## **2020-2021 Athletic Department Parent Meeting Calvin Christian High School**

For safety reasons during the current pandemic, we are sending the parent information letter in lieu of an in-person parent meeting. Please read the information below carefully and reach out to your child's coach or the Athletic Director with any questions.

Welcome to Calvin Christian Athletics! It is a privilege to partner with the parents of Calvin Christian athletes. By the time the school year ends over 75% of our students will have participated in interscholastic sports. We encourage students to get involved at school, and we are proud of how many students make that choice each year. Being on an athletic team at Calvin Christian is a privilege that demands an attitude of good sportsmanship and a Christian responsibility to play the games right. More than ever our athletes are going to need to trust each other and lean on each other as we not only deal with preparation for games, but we also deal with a global pandemic and the threat of seasons ending at any time.

Calvin Christian High School seeks to bring athletics under the Lordship of Christ by honoring Christ in all things, teaching Christian commitments, and modeling joyful living through the student's athletic experiences. In essence, athletics is a form of worship, a celebration of our life in Christ. CCHS's athletic program is concerned not only with shaping the students' bodies but also their hearts, minds, emotions, and behavior. Athletics offers an opportunity to learn fitness, proficiency, team commitment, respect for authority, self-discipline, self-control, the pursuit of excellence and how to deal with both success and failure.

We will use the following as our guiding principles as we do athletics:

- Christian character defines who we are. God-honoring behavior, good sportsmanship, and avoiding drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are required.
- We will pursue excellence in all things.
- Academics lead the way – successful athletes must be successful students.
- We will compete at the highest possible level.
- We will teach an understanding of the rules, techniques and strategies of the various games for maximum enjoyment and benefit.
- We will both win and lose with grace and humility.
- Together students, coaches, parents and fans are witnesses of their Christian faith in practice, competition, or as spectators and as such must represent Christ in all aspects of our athletic program.

Our student handbook has a lot of valuable information. The largest portion of athletic information is under "Eligibility" in the handbook. [Parent Student Handbook](#) Topics in our handbook are organized alphabetically.

Here are a few other miscellaneous bits of information that are important to parents of athletes:

**Bus Policy:** Calvin Christians bus policy is to bus athletes to away contests. It is the parents' responsibility to get their child home. That may take the shape of car pooling if a family has a hard time getting to away contests because of other commitments. This year the busing may change in response to Covid. It is a possibility that we have to suspend busing at times.

**Accident Forms:** If your child has an injury while participating in athletics, Calvin does have supplemental insurance. That insurance is designed to help where your own health insurance does not cover. Pat Rubingh, secretary in the high school office, is the point person for the paperwork. Our trainer, Emily Pearson, will submit accident information where she is present. If Emily is not present, the parent and coach should work out who is filling out the form. Contact Mr. Bouma if there are any questions. We will need an Accident Claim Form to process any claims. [Claim Form](#)

**Attendance:** A student shall be in attendance at school on the full day of a scheduled event unless he/she is excused by the principal or principal designee. If a student is absent for any period on the day of a scheduled event, he/she must receive permission from the principal or designee prior to the event in order to participate that day.

**Yellow Cards:** All students planning to participate in athletics during this coming school year must have a physical on or after April 15, 2020, or the MHSAA health questionnaire before tryouts for their particular sport begins. This is a rule given to us by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. No one is allowed to try out for a sport until the following items have been completed:

1. Completed enrollment forms are on file at GCCS.
2. A copy of the current physical is on file in the high school office signed by both student and a parent. \*\*For the 2020-2021 season, the MHSAA is allowing returning athletes to use a questionnaire (rather than a physical) found on their website and linked at our webpage.
3. A Pay-to-Participate fee of \$95.00 is paid at CCHS. Upon the payment of the Pay-to-Participate fee, a yellow card will be issued to the student by the administrative secretary. This card is then given to the coach at the first tryout date.

NOTE: Only students who are not selected for the teams will have their fees refunded. Make sure you acquire your Pay-to-Participate card before your team tryouts begin the following week. Plan accordingly as students will not be able to participate in the first tryout or practice without their "yellow card".

Below are some sources that should help you navigate high school athletics with your child:

**Calvinchristiansports.org** Please take time to explore our athletic website.

<https://calvinchristiansports.org/> You should find team schedules, bus departure times, photos, and information on our coaches. If you **sign up for “alerts”** you will get the latest information on closings and schedule changes.

**Instagram:** We operate a school athletic instagram at **gccs.athletics** . Follow and enjoy.

**Trainer:** Our school athletic trainer is Emily Pearson. You can contact her via email: [emily.pearson@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:emily.pearson@spectrumhealth.org) . Emily normally gets to school around 1 pm and can be found in her office in our south hallway or at events. She is a great asset to our school and can help greatly with injury rehab and diagnosis.

**Pixellot Camera:** Calvin has placed an NFHS (National Federation of High Schools) camera or Pixellot in our gym. To see live streamed events in our gym, you can buy an NFHS subscription. This subscription allows you to see any high school that has a Pixellot camera set up. You can explore this more at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/>

**Athletic Passes:** While we will still sell family athletic passes for \$125, it would be wise to wait to buy one as we all wait for the spectator limits at events. You can buy those passes in the high school office.

**Sportsmanship:** Parents can be leaders and social influencers when it comes to good sportsmanship. Our students, athletes, officials and guests are watching our Christian community. Be respectful and gracious with one another.

**Coach Communication:** If you do have issues that you want to discuss with a coach, please follow the guidelines here. [Guide for Parent/Coach Communication](#) A constructive conversation can be a great help to everyone.

**Athletic Boosters:** We have a fantastic group of Athletic Boosters. This fall we are looking for a few more parents who would be interested in joining. Our Boosters are essential in making our athletics successful. They raise over \$30,000 each year to spend on our athletes. They run fundraisers and help with concessions and spirit wear. Please have a look at their page on our athletic website. [Athletic Boosters](#)

**MHSAA Update:** [MHSAA Update of August 20](#) The most current update from the MHSAA allows for the following:

- **Football** has been postponed until spring

- **Boys tennis, girls golf, boys and girls cross country** are able to begin with restrictions on athletes and spectators. Masks and social distancing will be our rule this year in athletics.
- **Girls Swimming, Volleyball and Soccer** are in a holding pattern, waiting for the Governor's office to move our area to Phase 5. While we are in Phase 4 those teams have to be outside, and the soccer team may not play games.

Once we are allowed to play volleyball, soccer and swimming, there will be spectator limitations.

Here is a good parent checklist of what you can do to make the season successful:

1. Sign up for Alerts from your athlete's sport on our website.  
<https://calvinchristiansports.org/auth/login>
2. Sign up for Spectrum's Health Consent so that the trainer can work with your child [Spectrum Health Consent](#)
3. Turn in your Concussion Awareness Form [Concussion Awareness Form](#)
4. Decide if a Camera Subscription is right for your Family & Sign Up [NFHS Camera](#)
5. Start an Instagram Account to see CCHS Sports highlights
6. Grab some Spirit Wear, join Athletic Boosters and become involved!!!