



Spiritus Sanctus Docebit Vos!
The Holy Spirit will teach you!

- St. Aloysius Academy School Motto

“Playing sports has become very important today, since it can encourage young people to develop important values such as loyalty, perseverance, friendship, sharing and solidarity.” – Pope St. John Paul II



Wildcat proud!

Revised June 2016

St. Aloysius Academy Mission Statement



St. Aloysius Academy, established by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, is a private Catholic elementary school committed to the spiritual, moral and academic development of each student. The Academy prepares young boys to assume with confidence roles of Christian leadership and service within a global society. Through the dedication and commitment of a caring and professional faculty and staff, partnering with supportive parents, each student is encouraged to recognize and to develop his God-given gifts and talents to be prepared to meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century with Christian fortitude.

Archdiocese of Philadelphia - CYO Mission Statement

CYO Sports is one component of a school's [parish's] comprehensive youth ministry program which enables the partnership of parents, coaches, priests, religious, teachers, and adult leaders to manage and support a sports program that allows youth to grow in their relationship with God and come to better understand themselves and the Catholic faith.

St. Aloysius Academy Athletics Statement

Athletics is considered a significant feature of the school program that can enhance a student's personal development. Participation in the St. Aloysius Academy athletic program in a school-sponsored sport is a privilege.

The athletic program at St. Aloysius Academy is one component of the school's commitment to educating the whole child. The program creates a unique partnership between the administration, teachers, coaches, and parents that allows the students to form a closer relationship with God. The coaches use the challenges of athletic competition to create a fun environment to strengthen the student-athletes' ability to become responsible members of the faith community.

The young men witness the life of Christian discipleship as modeled in word and action by their coaches, teachers and parents. The program encourages each athlete to:

- Recognize and thank God for his abilities.
- Develop his abilities to play fair and by the rules.
- Improve his self-discipline and self-confidence
- Respect his teammates, his coaches, his opponents, and himself.
- Support his fellow St. AA athletes displayed through his loyalty, acceptance and encouragement
- Embrace commitment to being part of a larger whole that promotes solidarity of purpose
- Take pride in responsibly representing St. Aloysius Academy on the field or court

Goals of the Athletic Program

We believe it is essential for our Athletic Program to be rooted in the Gospel message and directed toward bringing everyone involved to a better relationship with God and others. Therefore we adhere to the following premises:

- An emphasis on respect among players and towards coaches and officials
- A culture of best effort and positive attitude
- A high level of sportsmanship at all times; this includes a culture of inclusiveness
- The fostering of a sense of teamwork and school pride
- Promotion of a healthy life-style
- Positive role modeling by coaches, parents and all other significant adults
- The philosophy of the athletic program is to make available to the athlete diverse opportunities that are consistent with the religious and educational goals of the Academy. St. Aloysius Academy has an excellent reputation in athletics and offers an impressive array of sports during the academic year.



St. Aloysius Academy
Athlete Prayer

Lord, help me to do my best in this game today!

Help me work towards victory with my personal best, but accept an honest defeat.
Help me respect each player, each coach and each referee or umpire, as well as the rules
of play.

Don't let me give up no matter what challenges I meet. Don't let me have a bad attitude.
And, Lord, teach me to play life's game one day at a time knowing YOU are my true
coach and guide who is always at my side!

Amen!

Participant Expectations

“The most effective Catholic athletic programs are Gospel valued and mission driven. That is, the values and teachings of Jesus Christ are present in all athletic practices and competition.” – Rev. Richard J. McGrath OSA

Parents

- Positively support the coaches, referees, and the student athletes
- Be respectful of coaches, officials and other parents; no “sideline coaching” that is disruptive, offensive or puts an athlete in conflict with his coach
- Remember that as a parent of a St. Aloysius Academy student athlete, you represent the school
- Nurture and encourage the values of unity, inclusiveness, teamwork, participation and community building in their own child and among his fellow student-athletes
- Assist the coaches with communication, field maintenance, scorekeeping, etc.
- Attend the games as much as possible
- Assist with transportation
- Remember the students are there as members of a team, not as individuals
- Ensure your child is on time for games and practices and has proper fluids (hydration)

- Pay the sports fee by the due date
- Review with their child and sign the St. AA Athletic Agreement
- Submit a yearly sports physical for each student athlete
- Provide Student Emergency Information yearly

Students

- Show Christian attitudes and act accordingly at all times
- Promote a team spirit; encourage team mates and display loyalty, acceptance and support in your words and actions
- Be respectful of their opponents, coaches, parents, and referees
- Be mindful that you represent St. Aloysius Academy
- Attend all practices and games
- Play with intensity and conviction during practices and games
- Come prepared
- Be properly equipped
- Show respect for equipment and facilities; this includes post-game clean up of field, courts and locker room areas
- Wear the uniform with pride; take care of the uniform and return it in good condition and on time
- Sign the Athletic Agreement and uphold its expectations in regard to effort, conduct and academics (Refer to Athletic Agreement for details.)

Coaches

- Coach and mentor each student-athlete
- Know and promote the philosophy, protocols and goals of the St. Aloysius Academy Athletic Program
- Be respectful of parents, opponents, players and referees
- Act in a Christian manner with appropriate words and actions in all circumstances
- Always act in a professional manner as a representative of St. Aloysius Academy
- Nurture and encourage the values of unity, teamwork, participation and community building in each student and among his fellow student-athletes

- Monitor athletes at all times; never leave a student athlete unattended – especially when practice or game is over
- Be mindful at all times that you represent St. Aloysius Academy
- Keep clearances updated; submit copies to the Athletic Director in a timely manner
- Attend certification seminars as required
- Be a model of good sportsmanship; maintain a positive attitude
- Be on time for practices and games
- Make certain that equipment is properly respected as well as Academy facilities
- Be knowledgeable of the sport coached
- Treat each athlete as an indispensable member of the team
- Be mindful of the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of each student athlete
- Establish a partnership with parents; set up lines of communication and share ideas for positive parental involvement
- Become knowledgeable in regard to concussions and other potentially harmful medical issues
- Receive current training in use of the AED

Code of Conduct

Student, coach, parent – all represent St. Aloysius Academy and are called to a standard of behavior that is respectful and appropriate at all times. Any student or coach participating in any sport that receives an infraction or rules violation - for example, a yellow or red card in soccer, an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in football or lacrosse, a technical in basketball, or an ejection from any game or practice - must have a meeting with the athletic director. Such a violation renders the student or coach liable for suspension, or depending on the circumstance, dismissal from the team if the athletic director and principal deem it necessary. A parent or guardian, who behaves in words or actions at a St. Aloysius Academy sports event, in a disruptive or inappropriate manner that does not support the philosophy or mission of St. Aloysius Academy, is liable to be asked to leave the field or court [See School Handbook, pg. 23-24.] Subsequently, the parent will be asked to attend a meeting with the athletic director and principal.

Sports Fee

Each student participating in a sport will be asked to pay a fee which contributes toward the following ongoing expenses: purchase of uniforms, sports equipment, awards, first aid equipment, CYO fees, tournament fees, referee fees, maintenance fees, and salary of coaches. Fees are usually set prior to each school year.

The current fee schedule can be found on the St. Aloysius Academy website: www.staloyusiacademy.org . Select the **Athletics** tab.



Academics and Cooperation/Respect Standards

Each student athlete must adhere to the policies and protocols of the St. Aloysius Academy Student-Parent Handbook and the Athletic Program Agreement (signed yearly). The following is the **Athletic Agreement**:

St. Aloysius Academy Athletic Program Student Agreement

Each student must understand that his participation in a school-sponsored sports program is directly connected to his enrollment in St. Aloysius Academy. Participation in sports is a valued component of the school curriculum. Sports compliment the various other aspects of school life. The same philosophy and principles apply in the sports program as in other areas of school life. A student's personal best is valued.

A student's cooperation, respect and effort in school are just as important as they are on the field or court. In order to clarify the importance of this, the following guidelines are operative:

- P.A.W.S. Pledge – A fair, kind and respectful attitude toward classmates and other students and teammates based on Christian values promoted by St. Aloysius Academy. Bullying in any form, verbal or physical, will not be tolerated and is subject to disciplinary action.
- Self-Discipline – A cooperative and respectful manner toward teachers and other staff as well as adherence to the school's Code of Conduct (Refer to School Handbook). This includes a consistent respect for school property. In ST. A.A. athletics, sportsman-like behavior is expected. This includes respect and cooperation towards all coaches, referees, and opposing coaches and team members.
- Academics – Consistent effort, cooperation and participation as a class member; this includes homework assignments. Maintaining a passing grade in all subject areas.

In the event that a problematic situation arises, the athletic director in consultation with the principal will assess the circumstances that may result in a temporary suspension from team activities, including games, or a dismissal from a team. As a courtesy, parents will be notified prior to action taken. Such infractions may include but are not limited to:

- A major infraction or disregard of the Academy's Code of Conduct

- Accumulation of 3 PDIs (Grades 4 – 3 Demerits)
- A personal development (discipline) grade that falls below a “3” (Report Card) during a Trimester period; less than a “3” rating on a report card in Effort or any subject area.
- A failing grade in any academic subject.
- A validated report of any serious inappropriate conduct at a practice, a game, on a field, a court, in a locker room or a bus.

I have reviewed and understand the **St. Aloysius Academy Athletic Program Agreement** and acknowledge my personal responsibility to uphold the standards established by the Academy.

Student _____ Grade _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Please note: Parents are asked to keep a copy of this Agreement for future reference.

Parent/Coach/Student Athlete/Athletic Director/Principal Conferences

Open communication between parents, coaches, student athletes, athletic director, and principal promotes the best interest of the player and the whole team. Parents are encouraged to make appointments with coaches at appropriate times to discuss considerations and concerns as the need arises. After a spirit of open dialogue between the coach and parent, the final decision in matters relating to an athlete’s status rests with the coach in consultation with the athletic director who will review any decision. As necessary, the athletic director will consult with the principal.

Eligibility

At the appropriate grade level, all students who are in satisfactory behavioral and academic standing can participate in a particular sport. Due in part to the level of commitment involved in both, an essential connection exists between a student’s daily school life and his participation in after school sports. In both circumstances a student’s personal best is encouraged, supported and celebrated. Each year student-athletes and their parents are required to sign the **St. Aloysius Academy Athletic Agreement** that aims to emphasize the importance of a student’s personal commitment to the Academy’s behavioral and academic standards as well as good sportsmanship. Students will be reviewed continuously throughout the year to remain eligible to participate in the athletic program.

If a serious violation of the Academy's code of conduct occurs, a student-athlete may be liable for suspension from a team. Parents are notified of this by the athletic director. The length of suspension is determined by the seriousness of the conduct infraction; this decision is made by the athletic director and the principal. Reinstatement is pending upon the productive attitude and level of cooperation of the student and support of his parents. In the event of grave circumstances that violate the school's code of conduct, after conscientious investigation by the administration, a student athlete may be liable for dismissal from a team. The decision for return to the team is finalized by the athletic director and principal after careful review. In all circumstances, the final recourse concerning probation, suspension or dismissal resides with the athletic director and principal.

Yearly, a student must have an up-to-date medical physical. This requirement by the Academy is a matter of personal safety. The **Sports Physical Examination** form is downloadable on the St. Aloysius Academy website. Without this form completed by a licensed physician, a student is rendered ineligible to practice or to play any sport.

The Academy also requires the completion of an **Athletic Program Emergency Form** that is kept on file by the Athletic Director and provided to coaches at the beginning of a particular sport season. Parents are asked to submit any update to this form as needed throughout the school year. This form is downloadable on the St. Aloysius Academy website.

In an effort to keep students who are involved in our sports program as safe as possible, A **Baseline Concussion Test** is administered to any student in Grades 5-8 playing a St. AA sponsored sport. When a student suffers a confirmed concussion, a **Return to Play** form or similar documentation from an attending physician must be presented to the athletic director. Also, a **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs** Information sheet (PA Dept. of Health) is provided yearly to parent and athlete to review.

St. Aloysius Academy Sports

“The immediate goal is to play. If possible, the program should set up multiple teams so that everyone who wants to participate has the opportunity to enjoy playing time during the game.” – Rev. Richard J. McGrath OSA

Varsity and Junior Varsity teams are usually formed for each sport. Students in grades 5 through 8 normally make up the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams. The number of teams is dependent on the number of students desiring to play a particular sport; as needed or desired, additional teams are formed.

Currently, the athletic program includes the following sports:

Football
Soccer
Basketball
Baseball
Lacrosse
Track
Tennis



A variety of after-school clinics and clubs are made available seasonally to students in Grades 1 through 4. They include but are not limited to: flag football, soccer and basketball.

Athletic Convocation: Yearly, students participate in an Athletic Convocation that celebrates team participation and certain individual accomplishments; this is usually held in late spring.

Team Prayer

By Rev. Brian Cavanaugh TOR

God created this day for gain not loss, success not failure, positive actions not negative thoughts.

O Lord inspire us with desire for greatness, to wisely use these gifts and talents you have so generously given to us.

Create in these young athletes:

The **Right Attitude** to excel in the classroom and life

The **Firm Belief** in God, themselves, their families, and their teammates

The **Enduring Commitment** to persevere, to never quit no matter what the score, to never give up no matter what the odds.

Amen!

St. Aloysius Academy Alma Mater

Our voices raise in fervent song, to chant your praises loud and long!

Our loyalty we pledge to you, in service, strength and courage, too.

St. Aloysius, school of youth, counseling us in love and truth.

Dear Alma Mater, source of light, striving to keep our goal in sight!

Our faith made strong, our ideals high, your fame shall ever be our cry!

We hail the blue and cheer the white, our sign of leadership and right!

