



# Lake Country Classical Academy

## Athletic Code of Conduct

### 2025-2026

The Code of Conduct is designed for student-athletes and their parents to help define the role of educational athletics at Lake Country Classical Academy (LCCA). The basic goals of Interscholastic Athletics are defined, and the policies and regulations necessary to achieve these goals are presented. It is imperative that student-athletes and parents have knowledge of this material.

The athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing LCCA policies, rules, and regulations. While the school takes pride in fielding successful teams, it does not condone winning at all costs. The school discourages any and all pressures that might lead to neglecting good sportsmanship and good health. At all times, the athletic program must be conducted in such a way that it is an educational activity. School success, community, and pride are greatly enhanced by proper student participation in school-sponsored activities.

### Objectives of the LCCA Athletic Program

1. The athlete learns the value of teamwork, self-discipline, a strong work ethic, and sacrifice. Contribution to the team is more important than personal goals or individual achievement.
2. The athlete learns how to be a competitor while developing self-control, honesty, and a spirit of cooperation.
3. The athlete learns to be a good winner as well as a gracious loser in defeat. Good sportsmanship is a major objective for all LCCA teams.
4. The athlete learns to appreciate the skills and abilities of his/her opponent.
5. The athlete learns an appreciation of playing by given rules.
6. The athlete learns the value of physical fitness that leads to a sound body, healthy mind, and lifelong healthy habits.
7. The athlete learns, in a positive manner, to cope with the competitive nature of athletics.

Lake Country Classical Academy recognizes that athletic teams enhance the atmosphere of the student body, providing students, parents, and faculty/staff with the opportunity to express school spirit and build community. Competition inspires and elevates the minds and characters of those who compete and those who watch. Therefore, all members of the LCCA community can support the athletic program in a variety of ways, including coaching, transportation, and attending events. A successful program is a demonstration of the entire school effectively working together.

### ATHLETIC CODE

Participation in LCCA athletics is regarded as a privilege and not a right. All athletes shall abide by a code of ethics that will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, team, or school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic program. When a student voluntarily participates in interscholastic athletics, he/she agrees to abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct throughout his/her athletic career. The Code of Conduct begins with a student's date of enrollment as a student and continues through their date of graduation and is in effect during vacation breaks, summer recess, and off-season times.

### WIAA RULES & REGULATIONS:

1. An athlete must meet school and the DPI requirements defining a full-time student.
2. An athlete must remain in good academic standing in order to compete in any sport.
3. An athlete must be an amateur in all recognized sports of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association in order to compete in any sport.

4. An athlete may not accept merchandise awards such as jackets, sweaters, watches, rings, balls, etc.
5. An athlete may not receive reimbursement for play in the form of salary, cash, or merchandise.
6. An athlete may not permit the use of his/her name, picture, or personal appearance, as an athlete, in the promoting of any commercial endeavor.
7. An athlete may not play in a contest under a name other than his/her own.
8. With school administration approval, an athlete may not play in more than 2 non-school contests/events at the same time that he/she is a member of a school team in that sport.
9. An athlete shall be suspended from interscholastic athletics (competition) for acts at any time (including summer) involving buying, selling, use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.
10. An athlete may not compete if he/she becomes 19 before August 1 of any school year.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

These Rules of Eligibility are established by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and are supplemented with LCCA's rules. To be eligible, students must:

1. Be enrolled at Lake Country Classical Academy as a full-time, grade 9-12 student.
2. Have a current physical exam form or alternate year card to participate in **athletic** activities as determined by a licensed physician. The physical exam form must be completed every other year, with April 1<sup>st</sup> as the earliest day of examination. The alternate year card with parent or guardian signature is used in the second year.
3. Attend a mandatory Code of Conduct meeting with a parent/guardian prior to the start of the season.
4. Each parent/guardian and athlete shall read the Athletic Code of Conduct and certify that they understand the athletic eligibility rules and policies of LCCA. A signed copy of the Athletic Code of Conduct will be on file with the school prior to the start of the athletic season.
6. Pay the user fee for each athletic season.

## **100% Commitment**

When a student joins a school team, the expectation is for that team to be that student's primary extracurricular commitment for the duration of the season. The baseline of "100% commitment" includes being on time for and staying for the duration of all official team activities as designated by the coach. There are three acceptable forms of "excused absences" from team events: 1) school event conflicts that are mandatory for credit or college admission, 2) personal illness or family emergency, and 3) when the time or day of the team event has changed with less than two weeks' notice. In each case, excused or unexcused, the correct procedure is to notify the coach directly as soon as the conflict becomes apparent. The penalty for an unexcused absence varies team-to-team, but generally becomes more consequential as the level of competition increases.

## **Scholastic Eligibility**

Any student wanting to participate in WIAA sanctioned athletics must abide by LCCA rules regarding eligibility, which are compliant with WIAA rules and regulations. Non-WIAA athletics may have their own eligibility requirements. Information will be provided.

In order to participate in LCCA athletics, each athlete must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and meet the school academic requirements. Students with either two Ds or one F will be ruled ineligible to participate in school athletics for a minimum of 15 school days. Grades are based upon first quarter, first semester, third quarter, or second semester grades. If a student is determined to be ineligible at one of these times, grades will be checked no sooner than 15 scheduled school days to determine whether eligibility can be reinstated.

- 1) A student who becomes academically ineligible may regain eligibility on the 16th scheduled school day by meeting the academic standard, following a period of 15 scheduled school days and nights of ineligibility. The athlete is responsible for meeting with his/her teacher(s) at the start of the 15-school-day timeframe and then completing a Grade Check Form with the teacher(s) on the 15th school day confirming that grade expectations have been met to be eligible on the 16th school day. Grade check forms are available in the Main Office.
- 2) A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes are made up within two weeks after a grade-reporting period.
- 3) A student may erase ineligibility status related to the last grade-reporting period of the school year through approved summer school courses, provided the student successfully completes not less than the same number of courses which caused ineligibility.

Students leaving school early for athletic events must follow school procedure for early dismissal. All missed work should be made up at the discretion of the teacher.

### **Equipment Responsibilities**

All athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them. School furnished equipment is to be worn only for team competitions and team practices. All equipment not returned in a timely manner and in good condition at the end of the season will be subject to a financial penalty.

### **Uniform Policy**

All school-issued uniforms are to be used for athletic contests only. These items are not to be worn in P.E. class, in school, in the community, at home, or at practice. The only exception is if an entire team wears their school-issued apparel for a special occasion approved by the coach. A student-athlete will not be allowed to play in a future season until all school-issued uniforms, warm-ups, equipment, etc. have been returned. Lost or damaged items will be subject to a financial penalty.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINING RULES**

1. **Coach's Rules:** Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sport with the approval of the Athletic Director and/or the Principal. These additional rules will be stated in writing and explained fully by the coach during a parents meeting at the start of the season.
2. **Fighting or Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** Fighting, taunting, or displaying any sort of poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated. Any athlete that receives a technical, red card, or ejection must meet with the coach and Athletic Director to discuss the behavior.
3. **Dropping from a Team:** Students who do not finish a season damage their team and affect their potential future participation. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed: a. Consult with the head coach. b. Consult with the Athletic Director. c. If the final decision is to stop participating, check-in all equipment immediately.
4. **Travel:** Occasionally, the school may provide transportation for out-of-town contests, in which case a transportation permission form must be on file (annually) with the front office. Athletes may return home with a parent after such a contest provided a note signed by the parent is given to the coach or direct communication occurs with the coach. Athletes will remain with their team under the supervision of the coach until the end of the contest. Unless there is an exceptional situation, athletes are not to leave a contest early.
5. **Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs:** Any student using and/or possessing alcohol, tobacco, or drugs shall be in violation. This rule is in effect twelve months of the year. Penalty for Violation: The Athletic Director and the Principal shall meet to determine the penalty according to the degree of the infraction and in accordance with the minimum standard of the WIAA. Other consequences may be implemented due to the seriousness of the infraction.

6. **Grooming and Dress Policy:** Every student is expected to maintain appropriate standards of dress and grooming while representing his/her school or team. The coach will determine travel apparel requirements. Only uniforms issued by the school will be worn for contests. Athletes must follow sport-specific jewelry and uniform rules.
7. **School Attendance:** Students must be in attendance at least four periods in order to participate in a contest or practice, unless the absence is excused. Students dismissed from school early for athletic events must follow school procedure for early dismissal. All missed work should be made up at the discretion of the teacher. If a detention should be served on the day it is given, the student may be ineligible for practice or competition on that day.
8. **Reporting of Injury:** All injuries should be reported to the head coach. If the injury requires medical attention by a doctor, the athlete must obtain the doctor's written permission to return to the activity with no restrictions.
9. **Cell Phone Privacy:** All cell phones are prohibited from being seen or used in any school locker room/bathroom/dressing room (Statute: Wisconsin Act 118). If a cell phone is found to be in use, the coach has the right to confiscate the phone. Should the coach have credible reason to believe that the safety of the student, other students, staff, or any person or entity outside of LCCA is in question, the coach will immediately contact the parents/guardians of the student as well as law enforcement to discuss and investigate the need to search the content of the device.
10. **Social Media:** All school or personal use of social media should be conducted in a responsible and respectful manner, as it reflects on the athletic program as a whole.

## **ATHLETIC CODE VIOLATIONS**

Consequences for violations of the Athletic Code will apply to all sports in which the student is involved. Penalties for violations are cumulative over a student-athletes four years in the Upper School. The Principal has the final authority in all disciplinary matters.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT MISDEMEANORS**

The following misdemeanors are unacceptable, and Lake Country Classical Academy Administration reserves the right to impose a penalty as deemed appropriate by the severity of the infraction, which may include the suspension from practice and/or competition. Each coach also has the prerogative to establish and implement additional misdemeanors specific to his/her particular program.

**Behavior and Conduct:** Respect, courtesy, manners and good sportsmanship are basic to good citizenship and shall form the basis for all behavior. Since students represent the school in public, their behavior frequently determines the opinion outsiders have of the school and community. It is expected that the conduct of students will be exemplary at all times. Below is a list of examples that are considered behavior unbecoming of a student, but is not an exhaustive list:

- Unexcused absences
- Academic dishonesty
- Bullying/Cyber Bullying/Harassment
- Social media content that is deemed inappropriate
- Vandalism or Property Destruction
- Poor sportsmanship including name calling, obscene gestures, and/or fighting, ejections from a contest, etc.
- Hazing/Initiation Ceremony: LCCA will not permit, nor will any student stage, any type of "initiation ceremony" or hazing of students at any time and on any level.
- Engaging in or being an accomplice to any other immoral or unacceptable conduct contrary to the philosophy of the Athletic Code of Conduct, the regulations within the WIAA, or ideals, principles, and standards of Lake Country Classical Academy.

### **First Offense**

1. If the student-athlete comes forward to admit an offense, the student-athlete shall immediately lose eligibility in that sport for two consecutive contests or two consecutive weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than two contests remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next sports season in which the student-athlete participates.

2. If the student-athlete does not come forward to admit an offense, after confirmation of the violation, the student-athlete shall immediately lose eligibility in that sport for the next three consecutive contests or three consecutive weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than three contests remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next sports season in which the student-athlete participates.
3. A written notification will be sent to the parents and the student-athlete detailing the offense, the consequences, any special conditions, and the effective dates of the suspension from athletics. During his/her suspension, the student-athlete is expected to participate in practice and to attend contests in school dress code.

### **Second Offense**

1. If the student-athlete comes forward to admit an offense, the student-athlete shall immediately lose eligibility in that sport for four consecutive contests or four consecutive weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than four contests remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next sports season in which the student-athlete participates.
2. If the student-athlete does not come forward to admit a second offense, after confirmation of the violation, the student-athlete shall immediately lose eligibility in that sport for the next six consecutive contests or six consecutive weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than six contests remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next sports season in which the student-athlete participates.
3. A written notification will be sent to the parents and the student-athlete detailing the offense, the consequences, any special conditions, and the effective dates of the suspension from athletics. During his/her suspension, the student-athlete is expected to participate in practice and to attend contests in uniform.

### **Third Offense**

1. Loss of athletic eligibility for a period of twelve months.
2. A written notification will be sent to the parents/guardians and the student-athlete detailing the offense, the consequences, any special conditions, and the effective dates of the suspension from athletics.

## **RESOLVING ATHLETIC ISSUES**

If an athlete or parent has a concern to discuss with a coach:

1. The athlete is encouraged to solve his or her own problems first with the coach.
2. Call/email the coach to set up an appointment.
3. Do not attempt to confront a coach immediately before or after a contest.

These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach, so a minimum of 24 hours is required to have passed after a contest before a parent can speak with a coach about it. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution:

1. Set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

## **ROSTERS**

It is the goal of LCCA to provide as many quality, athletic opportunities as possible within our resource constraints (coaches, gym space, funding, etc.). Occasionally, when interest in a sport exceeds roster constraints, tryouts will be necessary. In these cases, tryout information will be published publicly, and multiple coaches will be present during the evaluation process. Final authority for all team rosters lies with the Athletic Director, regardless of whether tryouts were held.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & PARTICIPATION**

All student-athletes who are in P.E. must participate in all activities during class, regardless of after-school practices or game commitments. If a coach or student would like modifications to be made, the coach or student should speak with the P.E. instructor in advance, then abide by the instructor's decision.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

When a student-athlete accepts a position on a team in the LCCA athletic department, specifically by signing the team registration document, the athlete and his/her family agrees to abide by the policies and processes laid out in this Athletic Code of Conduct. The administration of LCCA is responsible for the interpretation of this document and holds the authority to enforce it in a manner that is deemed best for the long-term success of the athletic department and school as a whole. Prior to formalizing a position on a team, coaches and athletes should bring any questions regarding this Athletic Code of Conduct to the attention of the Athletic Director and/or Principal.

Print Student Name\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_