TRIAD BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2026-2027

Developing Athletes, Discipling Leaders.

". . . WHATEVER YOU DO,
DO IT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD."
I Corinthians 10:31

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Triad Baptist Christian Academy Athletic Program

INTRODUCTION

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The purpose of this handbook is to introduce you to the Triad Baptist Christian Academy (TBCA) Athletic Program and its guidelines, policies, and expectations. It is our desire for you to understand our program and support it as we strive to build student-athletes.

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The TBCA Athletic Program exists to foster excellence, teach values, and enrich lives through competitive athletics that challenge student-athletes to reach their full potential. As Christians, we are commanded to hold ourselves to a higher standard than the world around us. With Jesus Christ as the center of our attention, it is our desire to glorify Him in all that we do. For everyone involved in our Athletic Program (directors, coaches, student-athletes, parents, and fans), we must live out His character, nature, and attitude on and off the athletic arena. Not only are immediate goals and standards sought after, but also a high regard is placed on values that last for eternity.

ATHLETIC POLICIES

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUG POLICY

Students, parents, and coaches will not use or have possession of tobacco, marijuana, narcotics, stimulants, alcoholic beverages, or any other unauthorized or controlled, illegal substance or drug paraphernalia at any time. Students not complying with this policy will receive an extended suspension and could be expelled from TBCA. Parents not complying with this policy will be asked to leave. Coaches not complying with this policy will be terminated.

ATHLETIC FEE

Athletes will be charged an athletic fee per team in which they participate. Athletic fees will be charged to the athlete's family account on FACTS, with payment due upon notification of making the team. Athletic fees are non-refundable regardless of participation, suspension, or an athlete quitting the team. The athletic fee must be paid within two weeks of making a team. If the athletic fee goes unpaid, the athlete will not be allowed to try out for a team in the next season.

AWARDS

Athletic Awards nights will be held at the end of each sport season (fall, winter, and spring). Special recognition of teams and/or individuals will occur. Coaches of individual teams will choose and present awards to their players. There will be four team awards given out by the coaches, including Christian character. At the end-of-the-year TBCA Awards Day Program, individual awards presented will be the "Male Athlete of the Year Award", the "Female Athlete of the Year Award", & the "Titan Award." Male and Female Athletes of the Year are based on athletic performance. The Titan Award embodies athletic performance, academic performance, and Christian character. It symbolizes everything we want a Titan athlete to represent. To be nominated for any of these awards, student-athletes must be in their Junior or Senior year. They must also have played at least two Varsity sports and have been selected as either All-Conference, All-Region, or All-State during the current school year. The varsity coaching staff votes for these end-of-the-season athletic awards. All players are expected to come to the Awards Nights, and specific guidelines for dress will be on the invitations for the event.

CANCELLATION OF GAMES

In the event of a cancellation, parents/guardians will receive an email from the Academy Office regarding the game or practice cancellation and a possible make-up date. All notifications will typically be completed no later than 12:30 pm on game/practice day, unless extenuating circumstances arise (inclement weather, emergency situation, etc.).

CONFERENCE AFFILIATIONS

TBCA High School (Grades 9-12) is a member of the North Carolina Christian School Association (NCCSA). The NCCSA consists of two divisions, A and AA. Based on TBCA's enrollment, our teams compete in the AA division. The AA division is further broken down into East and West Regions. TBCA will participate in District 1 of the West Region. District 1 includes Cramerton Christian, Gospel Light Christian, Tabernacle Christian (Hickory), Union Grove Christian, and TBCA. District 2 includes Alamance Christian, Faith Christian (Ramseur), Greater Vision Academy, and Vandalia Christian.

TBCA High School also competes in the Piedmont Christian Athletic Conference (PCAC). Other schools in the conference currently include Asheboro Hybrid, Gospel Light Christian, New Manna Christian, Union Grove Christian, Vandalia Christian, and Woodland Baptist Christian.

TBCA Middle School is also a member of the Piedmont Christian Athletic Conference (PCAC). Other schools in the conference currently include Asheboro Hybrid, Gospel Light Christian, New Manna Christian, Salem Christian, Union Grove Christian, Vandalia Christian, and Woodland Baptist Christian.

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

TBCA operates under the guidelines that student-athletes do not receive preferential treatment in the awarding of financial aid from the school. A player will not receive any form of financial aid for athletic participation.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event school is closed due to inclement weather conditions, all after-school activities are most of the time cancelled. The Head of School can make an exception if weather conditions improve.

INJURY-RELATED UNCONSCIOUSNESS IN ATHLETICS

Any TBCA athlete who becomes unconscious (blacks out) for any length of time during a game or practice is ineligible to continue practice or re-enter the game for the remainder of that practice or event and remains ineligible until cleared by a doctor for return to competition.

INSURANCE POLICY

In the event of a school sports-related injury, TBCA carries student accident insurance on each student. This is secondary to the student's primary insurance; therefore, parents should file with their insurance company first. Upon doing so, contact the Office Manager in the Academy's office for the necessary forms to file with TBCA insurance. All claims must be filed initially within 60 days of the date of the injury. Please see the Parent Handbook for more information.

PARTICIPATION PHILOSOPHY

Participation in athletics at TBCA is open to every student but is conditioned upon meeting the criteria of academics, character, and athletic skill necessary to compete. While all teams at TBCA are expected to play hard in the true spirit of competition, there is a different emphasis at each level of play.

Middle School (grades 6-8) - The athlete is provided a learning experience and opportunity for basic individual skill development. Team concepts of play are introduced. Team members are encouraged to participate actively in games as much as possible.

Junior Varsity & Varsity (grades 7-12) - The athlete is advanced in skill and physical development. Emphasis is placed upon individual and team potential. The athlete's playing time is determined by how it will best serve the team. There are no guarantees regarding playing time, especially on the varsity level. The coach is the sole judge of who should start and how much playing time each player should receive.

PHYSICALS

All athletes must have a current physical to participate in athletic events. All physicals must be submitted to the Athletic Director or the Academy office. Physicals are good for one full calendar year. Copies will be given to each coach in case of injury or emergency.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Promoting and encouraging good sportsmanship by coaches, student-athletes, fans, and parents is very important to the Triad Baptist Christian Academy Athletic Program. As a Christian school, we must hold ourselves to the highest level of sportsmanship. The school's administrators and coaches are committed to encouraging an environment of enthusiasm and school spirit that is consistent with high standards of sportsmanship and respect for opposing teams and game officials. Taunting, negative cheering, and verbal abuse by fans directed toward opponents or officials is incompatible with good sportsmanship and will not be tolerated.

TBCA athletic events should be fun and positively supported. Our school community and athletic teams are best served by fan support that is directed enthusiastically toward our student-athletes. We have a responsibility to treat our officials, opposing teams, and their spectators as guests in our school facilities.

TBCA Coaches are expected to:

- Serve as a positive role model in demonstrating sportsmanship to their players.
- Inspire their players to have a love for the game and the desire to be successful in competition.
- Show restraint and respect when dealing with officials.
- Reinforce respect and good sportsmanship in practice and situations, and hold their players accountable for unsportsmanlike behavior.

TBCA Student-Athletes are expected to:

- Play hard within the rules of the game.
- Win with humility, lose graciously, and congratulate opposing players and coaches.
- Respect officials and accept their decisions.
- Never attempt to injure an opponent.
- Remember that they represent their school, their coaches, their families, and themselves, as well as the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Remain positive toward their own coaches and teammates.

TBCA parent/guardians and fans are expected to:

- Role model positive behavior while attending athletic events.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, and spectators. Spectators shall only participate in cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Respect and accept the judgment of game officials.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT SIGNATURES

All student-athletes and parents must return a signed copy of the last page from the athletic handbook. Athletes will not be able to participate in any games until that is received.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

ACADEMIC POLICY

Athletes are students first and foremost. Students participating in athletics should anticipate the demands on their time and plan accordingly. All TBCA athletes will be required to have an overall GPA of 2.0 in all their classes with no Fs to participate in sports. To enforce this, there are four checkpoints during the school year at the end of the nine-week report card.

The Athletic Director will receive a grade report from the Academy Office. If the student needs to be put on probation due to grades, the Athletic Director will contact the parents to inform them. A student will not be put into the academic probationary period until the checkpoint day. The probationary period will last until the midpoint of the quarter. The student will be allowed to practice with the team during the probationary period. The student may attend home games, but cannot attend away games.

Ineligible students may try out for a team, but the Head Coach of the team will be informed of the ineligibility before the tryout. It will then be the head coach's decision whether or not that student will become a member of that team. If the ineligible student makes the team, he/she may practice with the team, but will not be able to play in games until the next checkpoint. The student also will not be permitted to travel with the team to away games in a TBCA vehicle.

If the student has improved the grades in question by the next checkpoint, he/she will be taken off the probationary period and allowed to fully participate. If a student has not brought up his/her grades by the checkpoint, he/she will remain on probation until the next quarter's report card.

Playing in a Fall sport will be determined by the 4th report card from the previous school year. Students who transfer into the Academy must meet the same guidelines as current students of the Academy.

Athletes are expected to turn in all assignments before leaving for athletic events. Athletics is not a valid excuse for late work. With all games/competitions, the student-athletes are responsible for communicating with their teachers about coordinating make-up work or rescheduling a test if necessary.

BUS/VAN RULES

Male and female athletes are not allowed to sit directly next to one another while riding the bus/van. All athletes must remain seated the entire time the bus/van is in motion.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Students wishing to pursue college athletics should discuss those goals with his/her coach and the guidance counselor. Members of the Athletic Department are available to write letters of recommendation and to make follow-up phone calls on behalf of the student-athlete after he/she has made the initial contact. If a videotape of game action is desired to send to college recruiters, talk to the coach. Students who plan on trying out for a collegiate team must be cleared by the NCAA Clearinghouse before the tryout.

COMMITMENT

TBCA student-athletes shall recognize that the Academy athletic schedule (including meets, games, matches, practice, etc.) needs to take priority over other competitive teams (select, travel, and AAU) and/or job schedule. No athlete will be excused from a practice or game to participate in a non-school team.

All student-athletes are required to be at every practice and game unless excused for one of the following reasons:

- Doctor/dental appointment (should try to work around athletic schedule)
- Personal sickness
- Death in the family
- Pre-planned family travel
- Previously scheduled church commitment

In all these situations, the athlete and parent should notify the coach immediately before the missed practice or game to be excused.

If an athlete misses a practice or game for any reason other than those listed above, the following should be the minimum disciplinary actions:

- Unexcused missed practice - Athlete cannot start the next game (and reduction of playing time).
- Unexcused missed game - Athlete cannot play next game.

Multiple unexcused absences must be reported to the Athletic Director and may result in dismissal from the team.

All athletes must also be on time for practices and games. Each coach will announce their disciplinary procedures for tardiness.

All TBCA athletes and their parents will be required to read and sign a Statement of Commitment. The purpose of this form is to ensure that all athletes and their parents have considered the level of commitment TBCA requires of its student-athletes.

CUTS/TRYOUTS

For some TBCA sports teams, "cuts" may be necessary. The coach must feel comfortable with the number of athletes on the team and with his or her ability to provide adequate coaching, supervision, and playing time to team members. Tryout dates and times for all sports will be listed on the athletic website and announced to students in weekly emails. All athletes must be present for tryout dates unless permitted to miss by the Athletic Director. In order to try out for a team, the family's account must be in good standing. Athletes will not be permitted to try out if a previous athletic fee from the prior season has gone unpaid.

Once teams have been selected, no one else will be allowed to approach the athletic director or coach and ask to try out. Exceptions would be granted to a new student who enrolled after the teams were selected, provided there is an open spot (and uniform) available.

DRESS CODE FOR GAMES

Dress code for players and student managers on game days will be left to the discretion of the Head Coach of that particular in-season sport.

All standard TBCA dress codes apply. Athletes may change into their uniforms after they have been dismissed to go to the game. Any athlete who does not comply with these rules may not be able to dress/participate in that day's game.

Cheerleaders may wear cheerleading uniforms on game days. Athletes may also wear team attire assigned to the team by the Head Coach on specific occasions.

DRESS CODE FOR PRACTICES

All student-athletes must wear appropriate-length shirts and shorts. They are expected to wear practice apparel that appropriately fits and is not see-through. Practice shorts must have at least a 3-inch inseam and must not be completely covered by their shirt. Also, girls should not wear halter tops.

Athletes who do not comply with these rules will not be able to participate in practice for that day.

DISCIPLINE

Any student-athlete who is suspended from school (in-school or out-of-school) will be suspended from the game/match/meet on the day of the suspension or the next scheduled game/match/meet. If discipline issues continue, suspension from the athletic program will be considered. Suspensions will be determined by the Head Coach, Athletic Director, Principal, and Headmaster.

Technical fouls and yellow or red cards will be dealt with after the Head Coach and Athletic Director meet to discuss the situation. Discipline of the athlete will include a conference with the Athletic Director and could include diminished playing time, suspension, etc.

HAZING POLICY

Hazing in any form is neither tolerated nor consistent with any spiritual, educational, or athletic goal at TBCA. Hazing refers to any activity expected of someone joining a student organization that humiliates, degrades, or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Any activity that causes or requires the athlete to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or TBCA policies or regulations is considered hazing.

Hazing in any form will not be tolerated at TBCA and will result in harsh disciplinary actions administered by the Head Coach, Athletic Director, and Headmaster.

PROFANITY/OBSCENE GESTURES

The use of profanity or obscene gestures by student-athletes will not be tolerated. The following progression of consequences will be used in the event of profanity:

1st Offense: Immediate removal from the game
2nd Offense: Immediate removal from the game and a one (1) game suspension
3rd Offense: Immediate removal from the game and suspension for the remainder of the season

QUITTING

Character is not built by quitting. Trying times are not times to quit trying.

Any player considering quitting must first inform his or her coaches and, subsequently, the Athletic Director before making their decision. Any athlete who quits will be removed from the team roster and forfeit any postseason awards. Athletic fees will not be refunded.

Any student-athlete who quits after accepting a position on a team, without approval of the Head Coach and the Athletic Director, will forfeit his or her right to play any sport during the next athletic season (Example: a player who quits basketball must sit out all spring sports) or participate in the sport they quit during the next school year.

Exceptions to this rule would be for family hardships, severe injury, or serious academic problems. The Head Coach, the Athletic Director, and the Upper School Principal will decide any exceptions.

TBCA athletics must take precedence over any other outside groups, such as select, travel, and AAU teams. No athlete will be excused from missing a practice or game to participate in an outside event.

There should be a strong sense of belonging to the teams, even when personal injuries would restrict the individual's participation in practices and games. Injured student-athletes are expected to be at all practices and games (provided they are physically able).

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Every athlete must be currently attending TBCA to participate in any sports activity**.**

Upper School students must be present in school by 9:00 am to be able to participate in practices and games that day. The only exceptions for this are dentist or doctor appointments or a family emergency. In each case, a note from the dentist or doctor (for such appointments) or a note from a parent or guardian (for family emergencies) is required for participation in practice or a game that day.

If a student-athletes come leaves early for any reason other than stated above, they will be ineligible to practice or play in a game that day.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES

The TBCA Athletic Department has adopted the following policy regarding the use of e-mail messages, websites, blogs, or other electronic communication:

The use of e-mail messages, blogs, websites, or other electronic communications to make inflammatory or derogatory comments, and/or inappropriate descriptions or pictures regarding another team member, another student, a coach, another school or team, another staff member, or fellow teammates is prohibited. For this policy, inappropriate comments may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate comments/pictures/descriptions regarding another person's race, ethnic background, culture, religion, or gender.

TRANSFER STUDENTS (DURING SEASON)

If a student transfers into TBCA after a season has already begun, he/she will be considered a new student with new opportunities and will be permitted to try out for a team if there are openings. At the time of admission, the transfer student must meet the academic requirements that have been established for all TBCA student-athletes. Varsity & JV level students must also comply with the NCCSA guidelines for transfer students:

NCCSA Transfer Rule

1. Transfer students from non-member schools who enroll in an NCCSA school in the same school year must not participate in any NCCSA contest until the following parameters have been met:
    a. A student is not allowed to participate until 14 days after enrolling at the NCCSA member school.
    b. A student is not allowed to participate if the student was on a roster for the same sport in the same sport season at another school.
    c. The student must enroll at the NCCSA member school by the following dates:
        i. September 15 – Fall sports
        ii. December 15 – Winter sports
        iii. March 15 – Spring sports
    d. Note: If the student's parents had a job-related move from outside the 50-mile radius and the student is living with one of those parents who moved, an exception will be considered for 1.b and 1.c
2. A student who transfers from one NCCSA athletic-participating school to another NCCSA athletic-participating school within a 50-mile radius shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school year at the school they are transferring to unless:
    a. The student's parents had a job-related move.
    b. The school in which the student is currently enrolled adjusted its academic program after the school year began, whereby the school no longer met the legitimate academic needs of the family (dropped course, loss of a qualified teacher, etc.).

Middle school students must have a minimum of three practices, including the tryouts, before he/she can participate in a game. Here again, the transferring student must meet the academic requirements that have been established for all TBCA student-athletes.

TRANSPORTATION

TBCA provides transportation to and from all home/away games. **Athletes must ride with the team when traveling to the game**. If athletes are to ride home with their parents, they must first get permission from the head coach. If an athlete wants to ride with another athlete's parents after a game, written permission must be received in the Academy office or given to a member of the coaching staff prior to the team leaving for the game.

Families who choose to allow their student driver to drive to off-site practice locations, rather than the transportation provided by the school, do so at their own risk. Should an accident occur while driving to the off-site practice location, TBCA and/or TBC will not be held liable.

STUDENT DRIVERS

Parents must complete and submit to the Academy office the Permission to Ride form for any students (including siblings) who plan to ride with an Academy student driver no later than the day before riding. If the parent wishes to discontinue permission, the parent must submit it in writing to the Academy office. No last-minute emails or text messages will be accepted. **No student will be allowed to ride with a student driver without completion of this form.** Student drivers who participate in after-school activities (i.e., athletics, clubs, and/or tutoring) and who provide transportation for a sibling or fellow student must make other arrangements. Non-member students cannot remain on campus during practice/meeting.

Upon the occurrence of a mechanical breakdown or accident involving a TBCA bus/van, the school administration will be notified immediately, and a CDL driver will be dispatched on a TBCA bus/van to recover anyone who was on board the stranded vehicle.

UNIFORMS

All uniforms are the property of the TBCA Athletic Department. In some sports, coaches will give the athletes their uniforms to keep during the season. Uniforms should be worn for games only, unless otherwise directed by the Head Coach. If excessive wear and tear occurs to a uniform, athletes will be responsible for the cost of replacing the uniform, with a cost that varies from $45 to over $100. Uniforms must be returned at the end of the season.

Expectations of Parents and Spectators

PARENTAL ATTENDANCE TO TRY-OUTS/PRACTICES

All tryouts are closed to parents and fans. Coaches may choose to allow or not allow parents to observe practices. If the coach allows parents to watch, they are to establish reasonable criteria to ensure that parental attendance is not a distraction (e.g., quiet/silence).

PARENT PARTICIPATION

In order for the athletic department to succeed and provide your student-athlete with quality programs, parents have to invest by working the admission gate and concessions areas. This is mandatory for all athletes' parents or guardians. The athlete's family must volunteer at least the minimum number of volunteer opportunities announced at each pre-season parent meeting for each sport season.

Once the gate/concession volunteer schedule is complete, it will be available at the admissions gate throughout each sports season. It will then be up to each family to know when their volunteer opportunity is coming up in the schedule.

Parents should notify another parent or the athletic administrative assistant if there is a conflict with the volunteer schedule and switch dates (or time slots). If changes to the volunteer schedule are made, the athletic administrative assistant needs to be emailed as soon as possible to be made aware of the changes.

Parents will be charged a $50 fee (applied to their FACTS account) for not showing up to each of their scheduled volunteer responsibilities.

Please note that for the first event of any game day, the parents or guardians scheduled to work the gate/concessions should arrive 30 minutes before the start of the event (Example: for a 4:00 start, volunteers should arrive at the admissions gate or concession stand at 3:30).

TBCA ATHLETIC COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

Parents who have children in TBCA's sport program have the right to understand what expectations are placed on their children. This begins with clear communication from the coach.

As students become involved in the programs at TBCA, they will experience some of the most memorable moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you, as a parent, or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child
2. Ways to help your child's behavior
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student-athletes.

Due to the intense nature of competitive athletics, coaches, student-athletes, and parents/guardians often make an emotional investment that can, when misunderstandings occur, turn what should be a positive experience into a negative one. The following guidelines clarify expectations for communication among coaches, parents, and student-athletes at TBCA. It also outlines a complaint process if a concern develops. **Please do not attempt to confront a coach <u>before, during, or after a contest</u>. This should be done 24 hours after any issue that may arise.**

Steps of Complaint Protocol:

1. The student-athlete discusses his/her concern directly with the coach – **If Not Resolved**
2. The parent contacts the coach to discuss the concern – **If Not Resolved**
3. The parent, coach, AND the student-athlete are required to meet personally – **If Not Resolved**
4. The parent contacts the Athletic Director – **If Not Resolved**
5. The Athletic Director will meet with the parent, student, AND coach – **If Not Resolved**
6. The Athletic Director will refer the matter to the Administration.

TBCA Athletics Statement of Commitment

I,_____, as a member of a Triad Baptist Christian Academy athletic team, do agree to abide by the following rules and standards of conduct. I realize that athletic involvement is a privilege, and not a right, and carries with it a high level of commitment to participate. I further acknowledge that there will be consequences for not fulfilling my commitment.

1. I agree to attend and be on time for all practices, meetings, and games. This includes award programs, team pictures, and all other team functions. Though I may have other involvements, I will not allow them to interfere with my TBCA sport commitment.
2. I agree to personally contact my Coach if extenuating circumstances arise where I must be late or miss any team function, especially games and practices (for example: academic help, family emergency, etc.).
3. I agree to inform my Coach of an injury or illness I feel may affect my ability to participate fully. I recognize that a lack of practice due to an injury may limit my playing time and that I am still responsible for attending practices and games when injured unless excused by my Coach. I understand that if excused from practice or games by a physician, I must supply a physician's written release to resume participation.
4. I fully understand and agree that I must be in school by 9:00 am in order to participate in practices or games that day. The only exceptions to this are dentist/doctor appointments or a family emergency. In each case, a note from the dentist/doctor (for appointments) or a note from a parent/guardian (for family emergencies) is required for participation in practice or a game that day.
5. I agree to keep an attitude of encouragement towards my teammates in every situation.
6. I agree to refrain from profanity and obscene gestures at all times and realize that there are extreme consequences for this misconduct.
7. I agree to maintain my academic eligibility as outlined in the TBCA Athletic Handbook and to inform my Coach of any academic problems that I may encounter.
8. I agree to take care of any uniforms or equipment that may be issued to me and will return them at the conclusion of the sports season. If any damage occurs during my possession, I agree to pay for repair or replacement. I agree not to use any school-issued equipment for any outside activities unless approved by my Head Coach and/or Athletic Director.
9. I agree to remember who I represent as I wear TBCA / TRIAD / TITANS on my uniform.
10. I understand that if I break my commitment to my teammates, coaches, and TBCA by quitting a team, my participation on TBCA teams will be restricted as outlined in the Athletic Handbook.
11. I understand that all athletic decisions are at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

I have read and understand the Triad Baptist Christian Academy Athletic Handbook. In signing this document, I agree to do my best to abide by its guidelines.

_____ _____

Student-Athlete Signature Date

_____ _____

Parent Signature Date