

Wylie Preparatory Academy



**Athletic Handbook
SY 2018-2019**

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Wylie Preparatory Academy Mission Philosophy

Wylie Preparatory Academy is a college preparatory school that partners with families to provide a Christian-based academic and social experience, developing servant leaders with strong Christian character and the skills needed to answer God's call.

Wylie Preparatory Academy Athletics Purpose & Philosophy

Vision Statement

Developing Kingdom Champions for Jesus Christ through Excellence in Athletics.

Mission Statement

Wylie Preparatory Academy Athletics exists to further the Wylie Prep mission through the vehicle of athletics by making disciples for Christ fully prepared to answer God's call.

Guiding Scripture

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added to you."* Matthew 6:33

Motto

Honoring God—Making Disciples—Changing the World

Core Values:

We are **HIS** Disciples!

*Honoring God
Integrity in all things
Service before self*

Our Guiding Principles:

Teamwork – Philippians 2:1-5

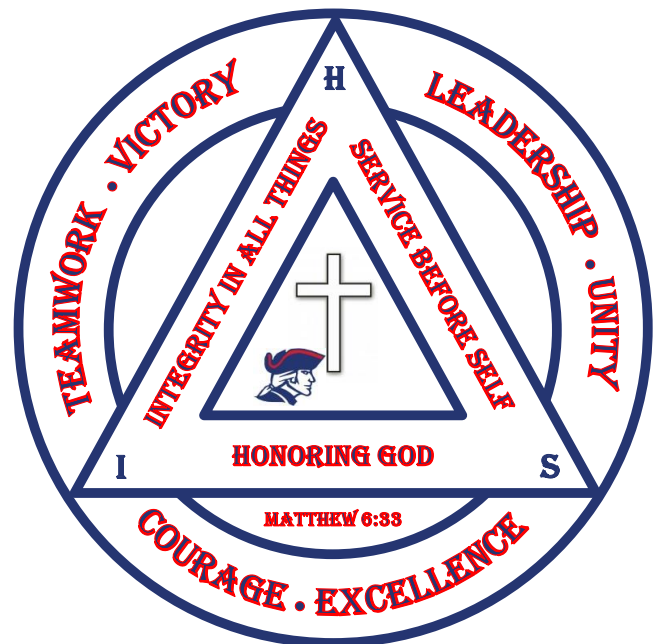
Excellence – Colossians 3:23-24

Leadership – 1 Timothy 4:12

Unity – John 17:20-23; 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

Courage – Deuteronomy 31:6

Victory – 1 Corinthians 15:57



Junior High and High School Sports

Junior High Sports

Exposure to a variety of sports combined with basic athletic training are the goals of Wylie Prep's Junior High program. Athletes are encouraged to try as many different sports as they can to determine their interests, natural strengths and God-given talents. Junior High parents can expect:

- Academics to come first
- All students to make the team and experience being a team
- Game playing time to be determined by coach based on the athlete's ability, responsibility and trust
- Basic training in the rules, skill, and physical conditioning
- Growth in physical strength and skill
- Challenges to grow physically, mentally and spiritually through sports
- 2 teams, if available, competitive team and developmental team.

High School Sports

High school sports at Wylie Prep emphasize a higher level of competition and skill and focus on leadership, athletic and academic excellence, strategy, and team building. High School parents can expect:

- Academics to come first
- Athletes to have practice time with the coach and team
- Coaches to maintain exemplary standards and high expectations for the athletes
- Practices to be challenging and difficult in order to develop the best in players
- Competition that requires a higher commitment and a greater cost of time and effort
- Game playing time to be determined by coach based on the athlete's ability, responsibility and trust
- A commitment by Wylie Prep that we will play to win, but with humility bringing honor to our Lord through our abilities and character
- 2 teams, if available, Junior Varsity and Varsity

Sports Offered in SY 2018-2019

Cheerleading	fall & winter	Softball	spring
Volleyball	fall	Baseball	spring
Football	fall	Track	spring
Basketball	winter		

Umbrella Sports

Effective SY 2017-18, Wylie Prep families will no longer be able to register for Golf and Tennis. However, Golf, Tennis, and Cross Country will be added as umbrella sports. As an umbrella sport the athletic department will provide:

- Coach recommendations
- League information including district and state competition dates

Parents will be responsible for:

- Scheduling practice time with a coach
- Contacting the league commissioner to submit dues and entry fees for competitions.
- Practice and competition uniform

Students who place at the district or state level will be recognized in the Patriot Post.

Policies & Guidelines

Financial Policies

Financial Policies:

- Families must be in good financial standing before students are allowed to register for sports.
- All sports must be paid in full or monthly through FACTS. Our tuition payment cycle is from June 1st through March 1st.
- Athletic Caps
 - Please refer to the Tuition and Fees Sheet
- Withdrawing and Adding Sports
 - To withdraw from or add a sport, a schedule change form must be submitted to the Registrar before the change can be effective. Coaches have no authority to withdraw a student from a sport.
 - Please refer to the Tuition and Fees Sheet for cost.
- No refunds, partial or otherwise, may be given to students temporarily barred from participation in extra-curricular activities due to academic or disciplinary problems.
- No refunds, partial or otherwise may be given for missed practices and/or games due to weather related cancellations.

Practice Schedule Times

Practice times and days will be determined prior to the start of the season and will depend on the school schedule and gym/field/coach availability. Game schedules and tournaments will be announced when determined.

Grade Level Eligibility

Students must be in 6th-12th grades in order to participate in athletics at Wylie Prep. Junior high sports are for 6th- 8th grade students; high school sports are for 9th- 12th grade students. 12th grade students are required to play at the varsity level.

Try-Outs

In the event that a sport has more players interested in playing than can be fairly accommodated on the allotted teams, it may be necessary to have a team try-out. Junior high try-outs will result in student athletes being placed on the competitive or developmental team and high school try-outs will result in student athletes being placed on a Junior Varsity or Varsity team. This will be done with the athletic director's approval and will be conducted by the coach of the particular sport in question. The coaching staff will communicate with parents and student athletes regarding try-out procedures and final rosters.

Course Requirement

As a league rule and as a NAUMS school, all students must take 3 core courses at Wylie Preparatory Academy and fulfill the credits needed in the four core courses by the end of the school year to be eligible to play sports at Wylie Preparatory Academy. The only exception is seniors. Seniors must be taking all courses required of them to graduate.

Playing Time

If a team has a large number of players or if a team has a wide range of skill level, playing time is determined by the coach and is based on the athlete's ability, responsibility and trust. Participating on a team, and more specifically playing in games, should never be viewed as a right, but rather a privilege.

Junior High: 2 teams, if available, competitive team and developmental team

- Competitive Team - most skilled players in Junior High at Wylie Prep. Starters on this team will play most of the game, with winning the game the goal for the team. Non-starters will enter the game at coach's discretion. Non-starters should play more in games we are way ahead or way behind on the scoreboard. ***No guarantees on playing time.**
- Developmental Team - skill development and having fun is the goal of this team. Non-starters will enter the game at coach's discretion. Non-starters will play equally as much as starters if possible. ***No guarantees on playing time.**

High School: 2 teams, if available, Junior Varsity and Varsity

- We play very competitive teams that play to win.
- There is **NO Guarantee of playing time in High School.**
- Varsity- Best players start regardless of classification and play to win the game. Non-starters enter the game at coach's discretion. *No JV player will be "called up" to Varsity unless they are intended to play, or the coach clearly communicates they may not play.
- Junior Varsity- Skill development team that has the goal of getting all the players experience in games. Non-starters will have playing time at this level, but with no guarantee how much.

Forge: Strength & Conditioning

Because of the unique nature of our school schedule, and to remain competitive with other schools, Wylie Prep recommends student-athletes participate in off-season programs year-round unless they are competing or practicing in a Wylie Prep Sport. Effective SY 2018-2019, Physical Training will be called Forge. It will be offered during 6th and 7th period during both the fall and spring semesters. The cost of Forge is covered when a student registers for a sport. During the academic year Forge is mandatory for all student athletes the off-season period prior to their in-season sport. However, athletes are encouraged and welcome to attend as practices and competition allow during their in-season times and during the other Forge off-season times as well. Student athletes will be required to commit to a Forge schedule established and agreed upon with the athletics department by season. Wylie Prep Forge will follow the below schedule:

- Fall Forge—August-October
- Winter Forge—October-February
- Spring Forge—February – May

Student Athletic Trainers

Student athletic trainers will receive academic credit for their participation in the Sports Medicine Course. They can receive community service hours for all hours served in a training capacity above the required 300 hours for the course.

Students interested in becoming a student athletic trainer must complete the Sports Medicine Course application, be selected by the athletic administration team, and register for the Sports Medicine Course. Once selected and registered, additional training will be required, and course requirements must be met. Please see the Sports Medicine Course Handbook for complete requirements.

Student athletic trainers are considered student athletes and are required to adhere to the Eligibility and Academic Requirements per the Athletic Handbook.

Conduct

A student athlete is a representative of Jesus Christ, a family, a community, a school and a team. We feel that participating in athletics is a privilege, not a right, and with that privilege comes a certain amount of responsibility. Each athlete is expected to demonstrate the following attributes:

- Coachability
- Commitment
- Desire to Improve
- Respectfulness
- Discipline

Athlete misconduct that takes place during any athletic activity or event could result in disciplinary action from the coach or Athletic Director. Punishments may range from a verbal warning to extra practice to suspension/expulsion from the team, depending on the seriousness of the infraction. If the misconduct is viewed as a serious infraction by the coach, he/she will consult with the Athletic Director and school administration before determining consequences of the offense.

Student athletes are expected to be positive examples of proper conduct, attitude, and responsibility in the classroom and on campus. Athletes should be aware that misconduct during school or other times could very well affect their playing time during games and might also result in extra practice requirements established by the coach.

Coaches will be notified of any problems occurring outside of practice/game times that could affect the athlete's participation in a sport. The coach, Athletic Director, and school administration will work together to determine the consequences of the offense.

Participation in Multiple Sports

A student athlete may participate in two sports during the same season with approval of both coaches. The student is required to choose one primary sport, which will take precedent over the other activity in case of conflict. Games/Meets will take precedent over practice. Both coaches involved should notify the Athletic Director of the student athlete's desire before the season in order to avoid any potential conflicts during the simultaneous seasons.

Prospective Student Participation Requirements

Prospective students who would like to participate in pre-season activities such as required summer programs, physical training, or spring training must obtain school acceptance before they are eligible to participate.

Eligibility & Academic Requirements

As an athletic department, we understand that athletics serves as a vital role in the education process only when kept in the proper perspective of the school's overall objectives. Athletic success is meaningless if it is not paired with academic success. For that reason, Wylie Preparatory Academy follows a strict eligibility policy to ensure a strong academic base for our student athletes.

Student athletes must maintain a 70% or higher in all classes to be considered in good academic standing. The first eligibility period will begin six weeks after school begins. It is the responsibility of all athletes to check their grades at the end of the first **three** weeks. This three-week check will ensure that student athletes and parents are aware of any possible problems in courses before the official progress report grade check.

An official grade check will be made by the Athletic Director at each established progress report period. Any student athlete failing the grading period will be ineligible for a period of three weeks. At that time, grades will be checked again. If the student athlete is not passing all subjects, the player will remain ineligible for another three weeks. If said student athlete is passing all classes, he/she will once again be eligible for play.

For winter sports that begin in the fall semester, grades will be checked at the second progress report. Any student athlete failing at this point will be ineligible for play as stated above. If the student athlete is still failing at the end of the first semester, he/she will be ineligible to play in any games over the Christmas/semester break. The student athlete, however, will be able to play again at the beginning of the spring semester.

Spring sports grade checks will take place at the first progress report of the spring semester. Any student athlete failing at this point will be ineligible for play as stated above. If a student athlete is on academic probation attending practice is optional. We want student athletes to stay conditioned and to remain as much a part of their team as possible, but we also understand that practice times may need to be used to complete their studies. If the student athlete will not be attending practice we ask that the coach be contacted prior to the missed practice. If they are unable to attend practices at all during the three week probationary period, they must keep up with their physical conditioning on their own to integrate back in to the team dynamics after the probationary period is over. This could affect playing time after they return to play. During games, these student athletes will be allowed to sit on the bench with their team, but they cannot dress out.

Student athletes who demonstrate a pattern of ineligibility may, at the discretion of the Wylie Prep administration, be prohibited from further involvement in athletic activities.

Practice & Game Absences

Active participation in all practices is expected and required of all athletes. If an athlete has a valid reason for missing practice, the athlete needs to call his/her coach **BEFORE** missing the practice. An excused absence could require additional athlete training assigned by the coach to ensure athlete preparedness and conditioning. An unexcused absence from practice will automatically result in the athlete not being allowed to play in the next game.

Student athletes are expected to be dressed and ready to practice on time. Being late to practice three times will result in an unexcused absence. An athlete arriving late to practice due to a teacher keeping him/her after class is an acceptable excuse, but the athlete must bring a note from the teacher.

Excused absences from a game or competition include academic ineligibility, athlete illness, or a family emergency requiring immediate attention. Coaches will determine consequences for unexcused absences from games or competitions.

School Attendance on Game Day

Athletes must be in school for at least half of the school day in order to be eligible to participate in athletic competition that same day. Missing more than half a day for doctor's appointments, family days, or any other non-school sponsored event is not considered excused and will cause the athlete to miss any athletic event that same day.

If an athlete is absent two consecutive school days, but participates in a game on the off day between those two school days, he/she will not be allowed to participate in the next game.

Pre-Season Practice

There will be a mandatory pre-season practice for fall sports. This practice usually begins the two weeks prior to the start of the fall semester. If an athlete will be absent for part or all of this practice, the coach must be notified in advance. Playing position and time may be affected by absence to this practice and will be determined by the coach.

Parent Conduct

It is expected that parent conduct during games be exemplary. Jeering or negative comments about officials, coaches, and opponents at home or away games are prohibited. Parents who abuse the expectations of proper behavior may be asked to leave the premises. Continued non-compliance can endanger his/her student's eligibility to participate and jeopardize the parent's ability to attend games.

Parent/Coach Relationship

Parents are expected to respect coaches and school personnel as professionals. When a disagreement arises, the parents should talk to the coach involved to resolve the problem. Parents are not to confront a coach after a game, but may schedule a meeting with the coach. If the issue cannot be resolved the matter must go through the level of authority listed below.

Handling Disputes

Parents or athletes are expected to follow Biblical guidelines when handling a dispute (Matt. 18: 15-16). The athlete is expected to attempt to resolve any problems he or she has before parent involvement. It is our desire that any problems can then be cleared up and those involved can move on. If, however, this does not resolve the issue, then and only then, should the issue be brought to the attention of the next level of authority. The level of authority at Wylie Preparatory Academy is as follows:

1. Coach
2. Athletic Director
3. Dean of Campus Life
4. Administrator
5. Ministry Board

Volunteer Requirements

In order to conduct competitions and games in a professional manner, volunteers are needed to ensure the proper support of team activities. These positions include gate entry, concession stand, timer/score keeper, sideline crew, line judges, gym set-up and teardown, etc. Parents are responsible for fulfilling these volunteer positions during athletic games.

Uniform Policy

Athletic tuition covers the cost of one practice uniform per year and the use of game uniforms. Some sports may require additional uniform pieces or equipment not covered by athletic fees. Coaches will inform the parents and athletes of the additional items needed.

- All athletes will be issued one practice uniform and are expected to wear them for all practices. Students may purchase extra practice uniforms for an additional cost.
- Game uniforms will be issued at the beginning of the season and must be returned at the end of the season. Parents will be charged replacement cost for any uniform not returned by the coach's due date.

Laundry Care for Uniforms

A good portion of the Wylie Prep Athletic Budget is used each year to purchase new uniforms for athletic teams. Athletes are responsible for properly maintaining uniforms issued to them.

- Athletes/parents should wash all uniforms on machine wash cold/warm with mild detergent (no bleach) with lettered/numbered uniform pieces turned inside out.
- Please hang dry all uniforms. Do not use a dryer to dry uniforms as it causes numbers to deteriorate.

Coaching Agreement

All Wylie Prep Coaches will:

- View athletics as a ministry, an arena for teaching the principles of God's word, and understand the importance of winning from a Christian perspective.
- Commit to uphold Christian standards of conduct and set a Christ-like example for the students, parents and fellow workers at Wylie Prep.
- Run a timely, organized practice and game
- Play all athletes as fairly as possible
- Distribute and collect player uniforms
- Organize and maintain the equipment necessary for their sport
- Verify player eligibility through grades, attendance, and discipline
- Communicate clearly with athletes and parents concerning game times, practice times, and athlete responsibilities

Transportation

During each sports season, there will be an opportunity for student athletes to take the school bus to athletic events. If the bus is provided, student athletes are required to ride the bus to and from the athletic event.

Transportation will be provided to practices that are off-campus on school days. Any student athlete not driving his/her own vehicle will be required to ride the bus. Parents must pick up their student athlete from the practice location. Student athletes are NOT allowed to ride with other student athletes unless prior approval has been obtained from both parents and the coach has been informed in writing.

Parents may be asked to provide transportation to and from athletic events. The parent or guardian will assume all responsibility for their student athlete and/or anyone transported by them.

If it becomes necessary for a coach to transport a student athlete in the coach's personal vehicle, there must be two or more people in the vehicle besides the coach.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather during outdoor practice or Forge, student athletes will take shelter in one of the school buildings. A coach will remain with the student athlete until the scheduled practice end time. Parents may also pick-up their student early if desired.

Athletic Injuries

Please report any injuries immediately to the coach. Injured athletes are expected to attend all practices/games unless approved otherwise through the coach. Injuries requiring medical attention need medical clearance for further participation.

If Wylie Preparatory Academy employs a professional trainer to assess injuries during a sporting event the trainer will make the final call on whether or not the athlete is allowed to return to play for that game.

ImPACT Testing

All student athletes, ages 11+ participating in Wylie Preparatory Academy athletics are required to have ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) completed every other year prior to participation in practices or games. This program assists our team coaches & Athletic Director in evaluating and treating head injuries (e.g., concussion). ImPACT is a computerized exam utilized to successfully diagnose and manage concussions.

If a student athlete is believed to have suffered a head injury, ImPACT is used to help determine the severity of head injury **and** when the injury has fully healed. The initial baseline computerized exam is given to athletes before beginning sport practice or competition. Baseline Testing is required every two years as their young brain grows & matures.

If a concussion is suspected, please refer to the Wylie Preparatory Academy Concussion Management Plan. The student athlete will **not** return to play until the “ImPACT” doctor, Athletic Director, coach, and parents all agree that it is appropriate and safe for the injured athlete. Once the athlete is released to play he/she will need to complete the progressive return to play checklist before they can participate in practice and/or games.

Letter Jackets & Lettering

All high school (grades 9-12) student athletes that participated on a junior varsity or varsity team will be eligible to purchase a letter jacket. All jackets must be purchased through the school-approved vendor. If a student athlete wants a custom designed patch, it must be approved through the athletic department. All high school (grades 9-12) student athletes, who participate and complete a varsity season or complete at least one year of the Sports Medicine Course, will receive a letter.

Team & Individual Pictures

Parents will have the opportunity to purchase team and/or individual pictures of their student athlete for each sport in which they participate. Each coach will email parents the picture date and time along with the photographer's order form before the pictures take place.

Communication

It is the desire of the athletic department to keep parents informed of all events, schedules, and changes in an efficient and timely manner. This communication will come from primarily from:

- Sport specific pre-season coach information
- Annual mandatory athletic meeting
- Email and Patriot Post
- Messaging system such as Remind
- Wylie Prep website: www.wylieprep.com/athletics

Wylie Prep Booster Club

The Wylie Prep Booster Club is vital to the unity, growth, and financial prosperity of the Wylie Prep Athletic Department. It consists of the Athletic Director, the Dean of Campus Life, and the parents representing each sport offered at Wylie Preparatory Academy.

The Wylie Prep Booster Club will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fundraising for athletics
- Promoting Wylie Prep Athletics
- Volunteering at Games

Wylie Prep Athlete Award Celebrations & Awards

Athlete Award Celebrations

The purpose of Athlete Award Celebrations is to honor our student athletes. All Wylie Prep student athletes and their families are invited and encouraged to attend! Each sport will plan an evening to honor their student athletes. Those dates will be announced early in each sport's season.

Athletic Awards

The Athletic Director and coaches will determine individual awards for sports. All student athletes who participate and complete the season will be recognized at the Athlete Award Celebrations.

League Affiliation and College Planning

League Affiliation

Wylie Prep is affiliated with the *Christian School Athletic Fellowship, Inc.* (CSAF) for our junior high sports. The high school league is the *Texas Christian Athletic Fellowship* (TCAF). For more information on the leagues including districts and divisions, please see their websites: www.CSAFI.com (junior high) and www.tcafellowship.com (high school).

NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse

The NCAA has three membership divisions – Division I, Division II and Division III. Institutions are members of one or another division according to the size and scope of their athletic programs and whether they provide athletic scholarships.

If your student athlete is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wishes to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse must certify you. The Clearinghouse ensures consistent interpretation of NCAA initial-eligibility requirements for prospective student athletes at member institutions.

All parents and student athletes wishing to pursue athletics at the collegiate level are strongly advised to log into the websites listed below for complete instructions and procedures.

- [***www.ncaa.org***](http://www.ncaa.org)
- [***www.ncaaclearinghouse.net***](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

Required Athlete Forms

Required Athlete Forms are available on either [*www.wylieprep.com/athletics*](http://www.wylieprep.com/athletics) or from the school office. The following forms must be completed on an annual basis before the student athlete may be eligible to participate in any athletic activity. All forms expire after one year.

- *Wylie Prep Athletic Handbook Signature Page*: signed by a parent at registration
- *Medical History Form*: filled out by parent.
 - We do not accept the generic Medical History form sometimes required by the physician's office.
- *Physical Examination Form*: completed by physician.
 - We do accept the physical exam form provided by the physician's office.