

**Mt. Olive Lutheran School
Athletic Handbook**



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Mission Statement

The **Mission** of Mount Olive Lutheran School is to prepare a new generation in the faith to serve Jesus Christ. This is summarized and publicized as ***Preparing a New Generation in the Faith.***

Philosophy of Athletics

The athletic program at Mt. Olive Lutheran School is an extracurricular part of the total learning experience offered to the students at Mt. Olive. Through athletics, we aim to assist parents in developing their children into young Christian athletes. This is accomplished by teaching such principles as sportsmanship, teamwork, discipline, fair play, and self-sacrifice. The atmosphere of the athletic experience should be God-pleasing with athletes, coaches, and fans striving to be Christ-like in their actions.

Academic Policy

Students who earn 1 “F” in any subject or 2 “D”s in any two subjects on a Mid-Quarter Report or Report Card, will be put on “Academic Probation.” This student will not be allowed to participate in practice or games until the grade or grades have been brought up and performance improves. The student will be allowed to rejoin his/her team with the approval of the teacher(s) and Athletic Director. Grades will be re-evaluated after a 2 week period.

Tardy Policy

Students who have reached the 8 tardy mark for any grading period will be suspended from their athletic team until the new grading period has started and the tardies reset. We want our athletes on time and take school seriously as it is an important part of their life as a family.

Behavior Expectations

Students will also be expected to follow behavioral expectations as well. Excessive behavioral problems in the classroom, as well as on the court, may also result in suspension from the team. Excessive behavioral problems will be determined by classroom teachers and/or the athletic director. The principal has the right to remove a player from a team at any time for any behavioral reasons.

Athletic Fee

Mount Olive provides coaches, uniforms, and playing opportunities for a minimal cost for our students. Each sport that a student plays has an athletic fee of \$30. This fee is not returned if a student quits or is suspended for behavior or academic reasons. Sports fees may be returned at the start of the season due to injury or family circumstances. The cost for each student to play each sport greatly exceeds the \$30 and Mt. Olive families fundraise funds to cover the additional costs.

Quitting a Team

Sports teach valuable life lessons beyond winning and the actual sport. Sports take commitment from students and families. When a student quits a team, that decision affects the team as a whole and the coaches. If a student chooses to quit a team, they may be ineligible to play in future sports seasons as a student.

Playing Time

Mt. Olive is involved in a competitive league (Milwaukee Lutheran Elementary Schools Athletic Association). This means that all of our teams, 5th-8th grades, will compete to the best of their abilities with the objective of winning the contest. Our teams are not recreational teams guaranteeing equal playing time. Playing time, which involves both games and valuable practices, is left to the discretion of the coaches and is determined by a variety of factors including attitude, work ethic, skill level, and contest situation. There is no guarantee that an athlete will play in each contest. It is Mt. Olive's goal to involve all team members while remaining competitive.

Conflict Resolution

Please follow these steps in order when solving a conflict. Our goal is to find peaceful, respectful solutions to disagreements.

Step One: Student athlete contacts the coach

Step Two: Parent contacts coach- A parent should not contact a coach, athletic director, or principal about playing time. If parents have a concern they need to voice, wait 24 hours to take time to think about the concern. The parents should contact via email or phone call to set an appointment to meet with the coach. **At a game is not an appropriate time to address a coach about a problem.**

Step Three: The parent contacts the Athletic Director

Step Four: Contacting the Principal

Step Five: Healing and Forgiveness- Once a conflict is settled, it is important that staff, coaches, parents, and students are able to heal and move past the incident to complete the season and not affect other players' and families' experiences.

Parents of Athletes

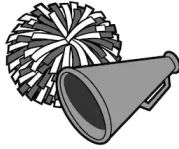
Expectations

- 1) Support your athlete with equipment, timeliness of practices and games, proper nourishment and water at events, and encouragement and positive cheering at all sporting events.
- 2) Support the coach and staff that work with your student and donate their time to our school. Never talk disrespectfully to your coach, especially in front of students. Follow the guidelines for conflict.
- 3) Be a good representation of Mt. Olive, our Christian values, and our competitive spirit. We respect officials, other teams, and other players at all times. True character shows when it is difficult, not easy. Booming and disrespectful marks will have you or a family member dismissed from the gym or location.
- 4) Only your child may attend practices. Other siblings must be cared for in childcare or by another adult, not in the gym at the time of practice.
- 5) Students need to be picked up on time and students must be able to contact a parent or family member. Continuous delays that keep coaches late will have your child removed from the team. Our coaches volunteer their personal time and we appreciate that by being on time.
- 6) All coaches will give contact information. Please use that to let them know of missed practices, games, or other scheduling conflicts that may arise.

All Spectators



Respect all officials, coaches, and players at all times. Disrespect can be grounds for removal from the game and building.



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Be enthusiastic. Positive cheering is encouraged and helps motivate our players and coaches.



Help us keep our building looking great! Keep food and drink out of bleachers(except water) and clean up any mess that is left behind.



People who cheer for our teams represent our families and school. Please help your friends, grandparents, aunts/uncles, and everyone who comes to understand what and who we are about.