

TRIBE

Tribe Consolidated Athletics Handbook

Effective August 2016

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Tribe admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and other school-administered programs.

TRIBE CONSOLIDATED ATHLETICS

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Tribe Consolidated Athletics (Tribe) program is to provide Christian-based athletics and extracurricular programs promoting spiritual and physical health for home-schooled, private school, and public school (as specified in IRC Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)) families. Tribe desires for Jesus Christ to be honored and glorified in the lives of our coaches, families, and athletes in our thoughts, words, and actions.

Tribe's Statement of Faith

- *We believe the Holy Bible, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of all mankind, and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.*
- *We believe that there is only one God, eternally existent in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
- *We believe that Jesus Christ is God's Only Begotten Son. We believe Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Having lived sinlessly, He truly died and was resurrected in His own body for our atonement and resurrection.*
- *We believe that only through Jesus' death by the shedding of His blood and His resurrection are we provided justification and salvation.*
- *We believe that for salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary which comes through repentance, faith in God's free gift, and salvation through Jesus Christ.*
- *We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life, by being conformed into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ.*
- *We believe in the bodily resurrection of all humankind; of the believer, to an everlasting dwelling with God; of the unbeliever, to an everlasting, conscious hell without God.*
- *We believe in the imminent, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

TRIBE ADMINISTRATION

Tribe is a subsidiary of the Academy Funding of Bastrop. Competitive sports offerings are based on demand and coach availability.

The following policies and rules are provided as guidelines only and do not include all of the policies and rules of Tribe. Tribe will operate in accordance with policies and rules of its regulating league. Tribe's Athletic Director (AD) is responsible for all decisions pertaining to the day-to-day operations of this program. The AD may delegate certain responsibilities to Program Directors/volunteers. Tribe administration makes all decisions concerning budgets and expenses, as well as appropriate disciplinary action. Tribe is also responsible for the handling of the registration process and fee/donation handling for all sports. Tribe's Board of Directors (Board) has the final decision in all matters related to this ministry.

LEAGUE

Tribe is currently a member of the Texas Association of Independent Athletic Organizations (TAIAO) league. Tribe leadership, volunteers, families, and athletes are required to comply with TAIAO's rules and regulations.

COACHES

The AD is responsible for interviewing and appointing volunteers to coach each sport. Each volunteer must complete a background check process. Coaches are responsible for being positive Christian role models for the students entrusted to them, mentoring each student, teaching them the sport of the game as well as the importance of being on a team. Coaches are responsible for duties delegated to them by the AD. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that only eligible students (as notified by Tribe's administration or designee) participate in the sport. Coaches may not accept fees or registration documents; all funds/documents must be given directly to Tribe administration or designee.

ELIGIBILITY

Tribe athlete grade levels are based on the student's age as of September 1st of the year of participation:

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 11 years old
- 12 years old
- 13 years old
- 14 years old

HIGH SCHOOL

- 15 years old
- 16 years old
- 17 years old
- 18 years old

Players must be younger than 19 years of age (as of September 1st of the year of participation); students are eligible for 4 years of high school play. Players who have graduated from high school are not eligible to participate in this ministry. Tribe is open to qualified students who are currently being homeschooled or attending eligible private/public charity (charter and other) schools. (IRC 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) states that an

organization must: A. present formal instruction as its primary function; B. normally maintain a regular facility and curriculum, and; C. normally have a regularly enrolled body of pupils or students in attendance at the place where its educational activities are regularly carried on.)

PARTICIPATION AND FEES

Tribe does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.

The registration process must be completed for each activity. The registration form must be completed once per year (March-February). Copies of required documents (e.g. birth certificate, medical insurance (if appropriate), physical exam medical release (for all sports) must be provided. Participating students and their families are responsible for reading this handbook and knowing these policies and rules. The policies and rules serve as guidelines towards appropriate and acceptable behavior and conduct for all families. Parents and participating athletes are required to agree to adhere to them as part of the registration process. In addition, a release and consent agreement will be required at time of registration in which parents and students agree to hold Tribe, Academy Funding of Bastrop, its administration, Board, coaches, and volunteers harmless from any liability resulting to an athlete as part of any Tribe activity or event.

In order for the program to operate in a way that glorifies the Lord, it is crucial that sports fees be paid as promised. Deposits are due at time of registration, and fee balances must be paid by the last day of the registration period unless payment arrangements have been approved by Tribe administration/designee. Players will not be allowed to participate in a sport for which they have not paid their fees. Fees and sports-related expenses are not refundable; exceptions must be approved by Tribe's AD and/or Board. In case of dismissal or withdrawal from the program, all sums of money paid to Tribe as of the date of such dismissal or withdrawal shall be retained by Tribe and any unpaid money due to have been paid to Tribe will be immediately due and payable. In the event of default of the financial agreement, the family is responsible for reimbursing Tribe for any sums of money reasonably expended or incurred by Tribe in enforcing its rights hereunder, including, but not limited to, attorney and court costs.

Attendance at games and practices as well as attitudes will be factors in determining key players for each team. Tribe is a competitive league; however, the focus will first and foremost be on the ministry. Players will learn the sport during practices and they will earn their time to play in games by proving themselves during practices. The fees being paid are to teach athletes the sport; there is no guarantee how many, if any, games a participant may play. It will be up to each individual coach to decide which athletes play in games. Coaches and parents are encouraged to instill in the children that their positive attitudes, as well as giving 100% at practices and games, will help them, not only in sports, but in all areas of their lives. Concerns should be discussed with Tribe's AD.

Participation in Tribe is a privilege and not a right. Any time conduct, academic progress, or cooperation with Tribe authorities is not in keeping with Tribe's requirements, Tribe administration and Board reserve the right at their discretion to take appropriate action, up to and including, dismissal from the program.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms and equipment provided to students by Tribe are considered property of Tribe unless designated otherwise. Such items must be returned to Tribe in good condition at the end of the season. Families are responsible for reimbursing Tribe for any items not returned. Each athlete is responsible for the proper

care of his/her game uniform. The uniforms are to be worn, in entirety, at games and game-related activities only.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Although most of our lives can be very busy, we are hopeful and confident that all families will support their students by being involved in their child's extracurricular events/activities. This includes attendance at the games as well as assistance at game days (e.g. concession stands, admission, line judges, gate, etc.) and any fundraising activities. Tribe relies on families to support and participate in these events.

RELEASE AND CONSENT

Parents are responsible for all medical costs incurred by students regardless if they have health insurance coverage. Parents will be required to sign a release authorizing Tribe to act in the best interest of the student's welfare in the event of medical or surgical need. Tribe will not be responsible in any way for accidents or injuries. Families without medical insurance coverage are encouraged to purchase student accident/sports insurance for their child.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academics precede extracurricular activities. Tribe incorporates a "no pass, no participate" policy. Students must pass all courses. Students who are not passing will lose eligibility to play/participate for a designated period as identified by Tribe's AD/competitive league. Passing means a minimum of 70 on all courses. Parents are responsible for notifying Tribe administration if their student is not passing a class. Parents must provide grades to Tribe administration upon request. In addition, Tribe will support the decision of any parent that wants to suspend their athlete's participation in sports as it pertains to their academic performance.

INTERACTION POLICIES

Tribe believes that it is possible to have healthy social interaction and mature Christian relationships. For the protection of our families, our Christian fellowship, and our testimony within the community, it is vital that we exercise ourselves with godliness at all times and adhere to moral purity. Tribe is not a forum for dating and carousing activities. Therefore all behavior is expected to be above reproach by avoiding the appearance of wrongdoing. Flirtations or suggestive communications are unacceptable behavior. The administration and Board reserve the right to determine what interaction is considered unsatisfactory and to take appropriate action as necessary.

TRANSPORTATION

Families are responsible for transporting their students to Tribe activities – practices and games. Rides may be available with coaches; however, Tribe will not be responsible in any way for accidents or injuries.

PROPERTY/FACILITIES

Students must be picked up promptly after practices/games and should not be left unattended at Tribe facilities (e.g. buildings, campus, fields, parking lots, and rented facilities/fields); this also applies to

students that have their own transportation. It is each parent's responsibility to watch over his or her children at all times while on Tribe facilities. Horseplay, loitering, or "hanging out" is prohibited. Tribe is not responsible for any accidents/incidents.

Every student needs to take personal responsibility for keeping the facilities clean and orderly and for appropriate use of equipment and property. Our care of the facilities is a reflection on all of us. Athletes are expected to do everything as unto the Lord and leave everything in better condition than they found them (e.g. putting things back where they belong, putting trash in garbage cans, picking up after self, etc.).

Tribe is not responsible for lost items. Items left at the facility will be turned in to the AD. All unclaimed items may be donated to charity at the end of each month.

BEHAVIOR AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

For the sake of our young people, it is important that we all rise above the typical competitive sports atmosphere that tends to stir up and encourage negative responses from opponents. Instead, we should encourage one another in love; may our desire be to build up EVERY person on EVERY team. This behavior applies to our players and coaching staff as well as spectators (parents, family, friends).

Ridicule (of players, coaches, officials), manipulative intimidation (e.g. making noises during an opponent's free throws), boastful chanting, jeering, booing, belittling, and angry or hurtful gestures are not God-honoring and are therefore prohibited. "Coaching from the sidelines" from families is distracting for the coaches and players; families are requested to only give positive feedback and leave the coaching to the coaches.

Banners, posters, signs, etc. containing positive, encouraging, and supportive messages are allowed. Negative or insulting messages in any form are not allowed.

Inappropriate behavior from players, parents, and spectators will result in appropriate action being taken.

CODES AND STANDARDS

All students and their families voluntarily accept the behavioral standards set by Tribe's administration. Students should understand and respect the guiding rules of Tribe. All students are expected and encouraged to exercise personal self-discipline, restraint, and genuine kindness and respect towards other students and persons in authority (administration, coaches, other players, Board, volunteers, parents). They are expected to speak only wholesome things to build one another up. Students should make good choices, maintain appropriateness at all times and model good character. They should show trustworthiness in their words and actions, with the understanding that the administration will hold each student accountable.

Students are responsible for maintaining a good witness by not using tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or drugs, by not frequenting questionable places in person or on the internet, and by not acting in any way as to bring dishonor, reproach, or shame to God, family, school, church, or community.

In dealing with any offense that may arise, it is the desire and expectation of this ministry that the Biblical approach to discipline be applied. Even as the Father disciplines in love, so the administration of Tribe will endeavor to discipline with a tender heart and Christian love. Correction and chastening are essential parts of genuine love. The child who learns obedience to authority (parents, administration, coaches, etc.)

is developing a lifestyle that encourages obedience to God and His Word.

Appropriate action will be taken if athletes use poor judgment in their conduct.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all games and practices is a priority for this family-focused ministry. Parents are responsible for notifying the coach of the absence at the time of the occurrence. Injured players are encouraged to attend games to support their team if possible.

CONSEQUENCES

The following four general principles are the cornerstone of acceptable conduct at Tribe:

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

No one can hinder the coach from teaching or the student from learning.

No one can deface, diminish, or destroy another's property.

Un-Christ-like (un-Christian) and/or disobedient behavior, attitude, or activity will not be permitted.

Students, as young adults, will be held accountable for their actions, both good and bad. Conduct included in, but not limited to, the below list may be considered unsatisfactory or inappropriate. The Board reserves the right to make the final determination in all cases.

- Harassing or discriminating remarks, jokes, or actions
- Theft, dishonesty
- Profanity, vulgarity, obscenity
- Possession of literature, pictures, posters, music, games, or any other related items presenting indecent or immoral activity or ungodly belief or philosophy
- Immoral or inappropriate conduct, public displays of affection, immodesty, and/or conduct that implies immorality
- Disorderly, violent, or destructive actions of any type
- Possession of any kind of weapon
- Gambling
- On-site use or the implied use of tobacco, alcohol, or narcotic drugs
- Unauthorized possession of and/or use of keys to facilities
- Defiance of authority
- Any practices which are forbidden in Holy Scripture

Disciplinary Measures

Forms of discipline may include the following, as determined appropriate by Tribe:

- The coach or AD may file an incident report.
- The coach or AD may give the student a verbal warning.
- Fines may be imposed as determined appropriate, not to exceed the cost to repair or replace property damaged by an individual.
- Tribe administration may request a meeting with the parents/student to discuss concerns.
- The student may be put on probation. Probation may involve loss of privileges and exclusion from sport activities or the use of the facility for a specified period of time. Although participation in a Tribe activity is lost during this period of time, the student on probation may be required to attend

sporting events to support his/her team.

- The student may be suspended. Suspension may involve removal of the student from Tribe and any activities for a designated period of days. Suspension will normally require that the student leave the facility immediately until further notice.
- The student may be dismissed or expelled from Tribe. Dismissal/expulsion will result as a last resort. Dismissal means permanent removal from Tribe. A dismissed individual may not be present in any facilities or at any functions related to this ministry, without the written permission of the AD and/or Board. Failure to comply may result in additional action being taken as determined appropriate.

Input from the coaches may be used in determining appropriate action. The AD may determine and take appropriate action up to dismissal. Disciplinary action may be appealed to the Board. An appeal must be submitted in writing within seven days after a disciplinary action has been enforced. The Board will impose dismissals; the Board has the final decision in all disciplinary actions.

TRIBE HOMECOMING

Tribe's homecoming may be held during the football season. All participants/coaches of fall sports (e.g. football, volleyball, cross country) will be recognized. Families of all Fall sport athletes, junior high and high school, are encouraged to participate in the homecoming festivities.

DONATIONS

Donations to Tribe are gratefully appreciated to cover the many expenses not covered by the fees. All donations should be made out to Academy Funding of Bastrop and are tax deductible. Please see the AD for information on how you can help.

CLOSING COMMENTS

May we be one with the Lord in all aspects of leadership, self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity, and good citizenship.

May we glorify Christ with our dress, appearance, thought life, conversation, attitude, habits, and relationships.

May we walk in humility before God and with one another, submitting to authority, and being subject to one another in the Lord, for God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.