



Tribe Athletics

Athlete Handbook 2024 - 2025

General Guidelines

Tribe Athletics is founded on traditional Christian beliefs and values. A membership in Tribe requires athletes agree to abide by these beliefs and values while competing for and representing the organization. ***Representing Tribe applies both during and off season, in and out of uniform, for the duration of an athlete's affiliation with the organization.***

Tribe accepts athletes from homeschool settings, public, private, or charter school systems. Each athlete must agree to abide by the general rules of the organization and its regulating member league. Currently, Tribe is a member of the Texas Association of Independent Athletic Organizations (TAIAO).

Playing for Tribe is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, athletes must adhere to the following principles while competing for and representing the organization.

Practices:

- Attend and be on time.
- Stay for the duration of the practice session unless circumstances preventing this have been communicated directly with your coach.
- Come with a positive attitude and be ready to work hard and learn.
- Come with the required uniform, gear, and any other equipment or accessories required by your coach.

Equipment:

- Care for your equipment.
- Take responsibility for having all necessary gear with you at both games and practices.
- Return all equipment and gear that belongs to the organization in good condition at the end of the season.
- Assist your coach as needed to store and carry equipment.

Games:

- Come prepared to play and support your team members.
- Respect the decisions of your coaches, referees, and parents.
- Accept defeat graciously and celebrate your victory with humility.
- Recognize that your actions directly reflect the organization.

Personal Appearance:

- Dress appropriately and conduct yourselves in a manner that brings honor to you, your family, and coaches, both on and off the field, court, or track.
- Jewelry of any kind is not permitted in preparation of or during competition.
- Tattoos must be covered at all times during practices and competition.
- Recognize your dress and overall appearance directly reflect the organization and what it values.

Refrain from:

- Consuming alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances.
- Behaviors that are contradictory to Christian principles and Biblical teachings.
- Gossip, malice, or wrongdoing against your teammates and all members of Tribe.
- E-cigarettes and vaping.

Before quitting:

- Talk this over with your parent or legal guardian first.
- Talk to your coach directly and explain your reasoning.
- Make sure this is the only solution to solving your issue or concern.
- Recognize that your decision to quit may impact Tribe's decision to allow you to participate in another sport or program.

Social Media:

- Only post photos that seek to build up your teammates and the organization.
- T.H.I.N.K: Is it true, honest, inspiring, necessary, or kind? Think before you post or comment.
- Consider all consequences of your actions.
- Consequences may be imposed by the organization based on evidence gathered from your social media posts and emails sent through outlets organized and set up by Tribe, i.e. Tribe's Facebook page, Tribe's Instagram, Hudl, GroupMe, etc.

Students First:

- You are first a student and then an athlete.
- Academic achievement supersedes your athletic performance and participation.
- Take responsibility for your grades and test scores.
- You are expected to be actively enrolled and attending school (home, private, public, charter, and/or college-based studies) during your participation with the organization.

Guidelines for Injuries:

- Speak up when you are injured, even for minor injuries.
- Honor the decision of your coach or Team Nurse to not let you re-enter the game.
- Be honest with yourself, your parent, and coach about any pain or discomfort you are feeling.
- You are expected to attend practices and games to support your teammates unless your injury prevents you from doing so.

I have read and understood the principles set forth in this handbook. I will, to the best of my ability, adhere to the expectations set forth as a requirement to participate in and represent Tribe. I also understand that failure to adhere to these expectations may result in my removal from the organization for an established period of time or permanently.

_____ Athlete's Printed Name
Athlete's Signature _____ Date _____